MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 JUNE 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iraqi aircraft raided Khark Island and the Tabriz refinery on 30 May, scoring effective hits and inflicting losses, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement carried by INA. Noting that the attack was in retaliation for Iranian shelling of Panjwin and civilian installations in Basrah, he warned the Iranians that Iraq will deal two blows for each Iranian blow against Iraqi civilian targets and also warned all vessels and cargo ships against docking at Khark Island. INA said several piers at the island's docks were damaged in the raid and Iran has informed tanker owners that loading operations have been stopped. The Iraqis also shelled Gilan-e Gharb on 31 May, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. An earlier Iraqi communique broadcast by the radio had cautioned the Iranians that further shelling of Iraqi civilian areas would lead to Iraqi retaliatory strikes against Iranian civilian installations. It also said Iraqi aircraft launched raids against Iranian troop concentrations west of the Karun River on 28 May. One Iraqi plane was downed, the communique admitted. Meanwhile, Iranian communiques carried by Tehran radio claimed that two Iraqi planes were shot down near Abadan on 28 May and that another aircraft was downed in the same area on 30 May. Iranian and Iraqi forces exchanged fire across the Shatt al-'Arab, the communiques said, and Iranian irregulars penetrated Iraqi positions in the Sumar-Naftshahr region to launch a surprise attack. On 30 May exchanges of fire were most intense in the Shalamcheh area, according to another communique.

Iranian War Aims -- If the Ba'th Party remains in power in Iraq, or even if another element of either East or West replaces the present regime, Iran will press for reparations until the last penny, will press for the repatriation of Iraqi refugees in Iran and will insist on trying the person responsible for Iraq's aggression, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed in a 28 May speech at Tehran University broadcast by Tehran radio. However, if an Islamic and people's regime were to come to power in Iraq, Iran would not be concerned with money and war damages, he said, and might even help the Iraqi people. Indicating that Iran will reject any U.S.-inspired call by the United Nations for an unconditional cease-fire, the Majlis speaker said the Iraqis still control Iranian territory in Khuzestan, Shush, Takyeh, Naftshahr, Qasr-e Shirin and elsewhere. The Iranians have a big job ahead of them to expel the Iraqis from these territories, he pointed out. While Iran does not seek territorial gain, he said, the United States, President Saddam Husayn and the Arabs should not imagine they will be able to hold Iran behind its borders through diplomatic means. However, he denied that Iran plans to threaten Gulf oil, saying the Islamic Republic is not adventurous and does not wish to cut off oil supplies.

The Tehran paper AZADEGAN meanwhile stressed that the war can end only when Saddam Husayn falls from power. In a 29 May editorial reported by AFP, AZADEGAN proposed that Iran move 50 km into Iraq in order to silence artillery positions targeted on Iran, cut all land, air and sea supply routes to the Baghdad regime, seize all Iraq's military airbases so that the Iraqis can no longer bomb Iran. The Iraqi people could then choose the regime they want through free elections, the paper concluded.

In a similar vein, Tehran radio's Turkish service said that after expelling the Iraqis from its territory, Iran must continue the war until it attains a position from which it can protect its territory from Iraqi shelling and missiles.

When asked in a Tehran radio interview whether Iranian forces will cross the Iraqi border, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said Iran will do everything necessary to defend itself. He reaffirmed that the Iranians cannot stop their efforts as long as the current regime persists in Iraq. Stressing that the victory at Khorramshahr was not a territorial victory but rather the victory of Islam over blasphemy, Musavi said Iran possesses no great military or financial power but its "great lever" is Islam.

Iraqi Comment -- In a series of meetings with Iraqi commanders over a 5-day period, President Saddam Husayn stressed that the new development in the southern battlefield calls for a high level of preparedness to fight the enemy and foil its aggressive intentions, INA reported. INA's political commentator asserted that the Iraqis are capable of dealing violent and harmful blows to the Iranians and can influence the course of battle with a renewed spirit and with methods that can wreck Iran's war machine.

GCC Stand on War -- During meetings in Riyadh on 30-31 May, GCC foreign ministers reviewed the outcome of contacts with Iraq, Syria and Algeria and expressed the belief that achieving a unified Arab stand is an essential factor in putting an end to the Iran-Iraq war, the GCC ministerial Council announced in a statement broadcast by Riyadh radio. Asserting that Iraq's willingness to withdraw to international boundaries provides an increasing opportunity to find a negotiated solution to the war in a manner that ensures the legitimate rights of both sides, the statement called on Iran to respond to attempts to end the war. Current circumstances necessitate intensified efforts to mediate in the dispute, the statement said, and the council has adopted resolutions to support the efforts of the Islamic Conference Organization, the nonaligned countries and the United Nations.

Before the GCC meeting, a Riyadh radio commentary stressed that issues dividing the Arab world should not be frozen but settled according to the view of the majority, Kuwait's ARAB TIMES reported. Interpreting this as a call for a go-it-alone policy by conservative Arab governments, the ARAB TIMES said the commentary strengthened the impression that the Saudi foreign minister's recent talks with Syria and Algeria failed to bring the radical and conservative Arab camps any closer.

Soviet, Syrian Support for Iran -- The GCC states possess confirmed information that the Soviet Union has supplied Iran with large quantities of military equipment along with military experts in addition to experts from Cuba and the GDR, Monte Carlo radio reported. These supplies began 6 months ago and have recently been stepped up, causing great concern to the GCC, the radio said. Noting that the GCC is also concerned about Syria's stand, the radio said the Syrians have supplied Iran with about 350 Soviet-made tanks. Syria and Libya have promised Iran 650 tanks, it claimed.

Jordanian Support for Iraq -- Kuwait's AL-QABAS reported that Jordan has supplied Iraq with sophisticated long-range 155-mm artillery batteries. AL-QABAS also said King Husayn is considering replacing the current cabinet with a new government headed by the armed forces commander in order to meet the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

King Husayn met in Amman with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on 31 May, Amman television noted. Al-Faysal delivered a message from King Khalid and briefed Husayn on the results of the GCC meeting; Husayn stressed the importance of ending the war by preserving Iraq's national rights.

Egyptian Stand -- President Husni Mubarak called on Iran and Iraq to end the war immediately and without preconditions prior to reaching a just settlement of their differences, according to a 1 June interview he gave to AL-AHRAM as reported by MENA. Further escalation of tension will encourage foreign powers to exploit the situation, he warned. According to Cairo radio, the war and its effect on the security of states in the area was the subject of a 31 May meeting between Mubarak and members of the National Democratic Party's Political Bureau. Earlier, during their 3-day visit to Israel as guests of the Labor Party, former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reaffirmed that Egypt does not intend to send soldiers to fight alongside Iraq on the Iranian front, ITIM reported. Egypt did not reject Iraq's request for help, Khalil said; it will help in finding a peaceful solution. "Our contribution will be for peace and not by intervening in a war," he added. MENA noted that an official Egyptian source denied Libyan allegations that Egypt has sent 35,000 military technicians to Iraq.

European Initiatives -- During his 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson spoke of a new French initiative to end the Iran-Iraq war, SPA reported on 29 May. An Italian Foreign Ministry statement subsequently announced that Italy is ready to mediate between Iran and Iraq, according to a 31 May AFP report.

Alleged Syrian Violation of Iraqi Airspace

A Syrian fighter plane violated Iraqi airspace on 30 May, penetrating 30 km, as far as Al-Qa'im, an Iraqi military source announced in a statement reported by INA.

However, a Syrian official source denied the Iraqi claim, Damascus radio reported. He said the Iraqi statement contains the lies and fabrications that are heard from Iraq every time the Iraqi "executioner" suffers a military, moral or political defeat.

Iran

Security Situation -- Revolution guards staged further operations against the Mojahedin-e Khalq in Tehran, according to a 30 May Islamic Revolution Committee statement broadcast by Tehran radio. Guards uncovered two hideouts, arresting five Mojahedin and killing two others, the statement said, and also killed three Mojahedin in street clashes. According to a related Guards Corps statement carried by the radio, 'Aliyeh Bazargan was among those captured or killed. However, the Mojahedin-e Khalq leadership in Paris said she was executed last year, according to the clandestine Free Voice of Iran Radio. The radio also said dozens of guards were killed in the Tehran street clashes.

Cabinet Changes -- The Majlis approved Behzad Nabavi as minister for heavy industry and Gholamreza Aqazadeh to replace him as minister of state for executive affairs, Tehran radio reported. In a speech supporting Nabavi's appointment, Prime Minister Musavi criticized those who describe any steps taken in favor of the deprived as "communism." He assured the Majlis that there is no room in the Cabinet for any tendency toward the right or the left.

Egypt

Following a meeting between President Mubarak and PRC special envoy He Ying, the envoy announced that the Egyptian president had accepted an invitation to visit the PRC, MENA reported. According to the envoy, no date has been set for the visit.

Saudi Arabia

A Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Riyadh radio announced that in view of Costa Rica's decision to move its embassy in Israel to "occupied" Jerusalem, Saudi Arabia has decided to immediately sever all diplomatic and economic relations with Costa Rica.

Israel

Arms Sale, Sharon U.S. Visit -- Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon disclosed that the United States had been aware of Israeli arms shipments to Iran and had agreed to them, Jerusalem radio reported. He added that contacts on this matter were held at various times and noted that the arms sales involved a very small quantity of equipment, the radio reported. According to a later radio report, Sharon claimed that the arms sales had been discussed at the highest levels by Israel and the United States and that the matter had been kept secret for months. Sharon maintained that the disclosure of this information came from sources close to the U.S. authorities. He said that while on his visit to the United States a similar attempt was made to blame Israel for supplying weapons to Argentina. Sharon said under no circumstances could anybody be permitted to use these accusations as a justification for providing massive supplies of weapons to the Arab countries.

Commenting on his talks in Washington upon his return to Israel, Sharon said he believed he had succeeded in outlining Israel's clear positions regarding Israel's unwillingness to accept Palestinian terrorism as a way of life, IDF radio reported. Speaking at a congress of IDF disabled, Sharon said he had explained to the United States that Israel would not accept efforts to restrict Israel's freedom of action with regard to PLO terrorist acts, Jerusalem radio reported. With regard to the issue of arms sales to Jordan, Sharon said the incorporation of long-range Jordanian artillery under the protection of modern antiaircraft missiles in the system confronting Israel is a certain format for war. He added that it is inconceivable that Jerusalem or Israel's main airbases should be under the control of antiaircraft missiles made in the United States or anywhere else.

In another report dealing with Sharon's U.S. visit, the radio said his talks with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger were conducted in a "harsh" atmosphere. According to the radio, Weinberger did not rule out the possibility that the United States will adopt sanctions against Israel in the future if it harms U.S. interests. In Sharon's talks with Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Haig warned against Israel becoming entangled in Lebanon and said the United States will determine its position toward Israel's antiterrorist action according to the degree of the terrorist provocation, the radio reported.

'Ali Visit -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will visit Jerusalem on 2 June to deliver an urgent letter from President Mubarak to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio speculated that the letter may be connected with the possibility of convening a summit in Washington in the middle of June to discuss ways of resuming the autonomy talks.

Eytan Remarks -- Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan declared in a speech to religious students in Tiberias that only through a military strike can Israel bring to an end the situation in which terrorists in Lebanon continue to vex Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. He pointed out that a smashing military blow would enable Israel to conduct negotiations on its own terms.

FBIS
DAILY REPORT

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PLO'S QADDUMI ON HAIG PERSIAN GULF STATEMENT

JN281835 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head, has stated current developments in the region are a natural result of the failing U.S. policy that led to all the current disasters in the Arab region.

Speaking to WAFA in response to statements by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Qaddumi held the United States responsible for the continued tension in the region. Qaddumi said the way to obtain peace is to solve the Palestinian problem and restore the full rights of the Palestinian people.

Qaddumi pointed out that Haig's remarks about the deteriorating situation in the Arab region and its seriousness show that the United States has realized the consequences of its pro-Israel policy that has led to such a serious situation. The U.S. policy of insisting on implementing the Camp David agreements and attempting to impose the autonomy has not been successful. It has led to disasters in the area, seriously harmed Lebanon's sovereignty and threatened the independence of many states in the region. Through its increasingly hostile policy toward the PLO and the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, the United States has worked at creating more struggles in the region in order to divert attention from the crux of the Arab-Israeli dispute, namely, the Palestinian problem. Following the failure of this plot, the United States seems to have realized the need for faking certain actions to stop this deterioration which has harmed the area, clearly affected U.S. interests and turned the people of the region against the United States.

Qaddumi said: The United States must know that the way to obtain a Middle East peace is to resolve the Palestinian problem. If the Palestinian people do not obtain their national right to return to their homeland, their right to self-determination and to establish their independent Palestinian state on their national soil, peace will not be realized and tension and instability will remain throughout the region. The continued U.S. encouragement to Israel through protecting it from resolutions at the UN General Assembly and Security Council, promoting and blessing Israel's terrorist measures inside the occupied Arab territories and encouraging it to launch more aggressions against southern Lebanon have directly threatened the peace and security in the region and the world.

Brother Faruq Qaddumi made it clear that continuing to follow the Camp David path and implementing the autonomy will make the situation in the region more explosive. He added: We have been and are still working through the Nonaligned Movement and the Islamic Conference Organization to stop the Iraq-Iran war and find a political solution to this problem. However, the United States has always worked behind the scenes to fan the flames of this war and was largely responsible for its outbreak. Undoubtedly, encouraging Israel to commit aggression against Lebanon has foiled Arab efforts to establish national reconciliation as a prelude to resolving the Lebanese crisis. On the contrary, Israel has not withdrawn from all occupied Lebanese territories or handed them over to UNIFIL, but has kept the border strip under its influence, thus contravening UN Security Council Resolution 425.

VOP COMMENTS ON HAIG STATEMENT, U.S. MOVES

NC311409 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, The area is now witnessing important political activities; some regional and some international moves are emanating from the United States and Western Europe. Several days after U.S. Secretary of State General Haig's declaration about an American move involving three issues -- the autonomy conspiracy, the Lebanese problem and the Iraq-Iran war -- the area now stands at the threshold of a new move, or perhaps it is expecting a comprehensive reshuffling of the papers, which could mark the beginning of new situations or crises that would threaten the area on more than one level, especially since the basic motivator of such moves is the United States which wishes to implement its comprehensive strategic plan in the Arab world.

With regard to the autonomy conspiracy, U.S. President Reagan is preparing to convene on 21 June and on the periphery of the UN General Assembly session, a tripartite summit including himself, terrorist Begin and Egyptian President Mubarak in an attempt to give momentum to the autonomy talks.

As for the Lebanese problem, Philip Habib is preparing to embark on a new tour of the area to resume his previous attempts to cut the Palestinian Resistance down to size politically and arrange the Lebanese situation according to Washington's and Tel Aviv's wishes.

With respect to the Iraq-Iran war, the U.S. policy is now to do everything in its power to turn this war into one that polarizes the Arabs. This would lead to the creation of sharp disputes among Arab states -- disputes that would turn over the page of Arab solidarity for a long time and divert the nation's political and military efforts from the main target: the Zionist entity and its expansionist and aggressive policy.

In his recent statements, General Haig summed up the coming American move by saying that the move involves these three issues: the autonomy conspiracy, the Lebanese problem and the Iraq-Iran war. This is the door through which Reagan's administration seeks to reshuffle the papers in the area in order to create an Arab polarization regarding the U.S. move, a polarization that would eventually lead to giving the Zionist enemy freedom to act with regard to autonomy and the Lebanese problem -- the two issues U.S. and Zionist policies have thus far not been able to tame.

Therefore, when Israeli Chief of Staff General Eytan announces that Israel cannot possibly negotiate on its terms except after it has dealt a strong blow to the Palestinians in Lebanon so that they will not constitute a threat to it, he is alluding to one of the advantages the government of terrorist Begin can reap from the new three-pronged U.S. move. This explains Eytan's linking the "strong blow" with the negotiations on Israel's terms and from a position of strength.

However, Eytan, who is rash in his political conclusions just as he is rash in judging the military power of the Palestinian Revolution, is viewing the picture in the area as it appears externally. He, like Begin, Sharon and Shamir, believes that the greater the number of U.S. aircraft they obtain the more they are reassured about the success of the policy of force, aggression and occupation they are pursuing. However, changes are sweeping through the area carrying the seeds of great transformations, while the revolution's might is emerging amid a hardening of the Arab masses' stand in confronting the occupation and all forms of capitulation policies. The popular uprising in the [West] Bank, [Gaza] Strip and Golan Heights is an expression of these changes which no longer consider the balance of power on which the enemy leaders rely a great deal in arriving at their false conclusions and which have become obsolete, and no longer constitute an obstacle to the Palestinian people's revolution and the national Lebanese and Arab masses' will which is no longer a testing ground for Washington's exposed schemes, plots and intrigues.

VOP: U.S. NOT PREPARED TO SOLVE LEBANESE CRISIS

NC281407 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 82

[Political commentary: "The Important Wager on a U.S. Miracle"]

[Text] Certain Lebanese, who are a minority anyway, received the statements by the U.S. President and his secretary of state outlining a detailed review of the U.S. stand on Lebanon with some optimism. They consider these statements a positive indication on which they rely to extricate Lebanon from its crisis by isolating it from the area's crises and finding a special solution to it. What is illogical in this optimism is that it is not based on any serious foundation; all that Reagan and Haig said did not absolutely depart from the old U.S. policy toward Lebanon.

We all know the U.S. position has always been to feign concern over Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. The U.S. fingers, however, have always been covertly active to draw this country into amaelstromor rather, as Michel Abu Jawdah put it, Lebanon has been the victim of surgical operations the United States has performed in the area, most serious of which has been the Camp David operation.

Certain Lebanese, who are wagering on a U.S. miracle to resolve the Lebanese crisis apart from the general situation in the Middle East, are mixing beautiful wishes with hard facts. Solving the Lebanese problem is a beautiful wish we all hope will be realized. However, we must view things more comprehensively and objectively because the Lebanese crisis cannot be solved separately. Even if this were possible, the solution cannot be reached through the United States. The United States is the main party to the detonation of the situation as well as the side that wields great leverage on Israel. Israel does not move an aircraft or a tank toward Lebanon except within the framework of the U.S. scheme and its requirements.

Indeed, we hope Lebanon will find a solution to its crisis. Not only this -- we are even ready to give all the help we can toward achieving this solution not from a standpoint of ethical solidarity but out of real understanding of the interest of our cause and the struggle of our people. However, do we forget the fact that each time Lebanon is about to emerge from its crisis, the Americans and their agents hasten to prevent it.

A precise political term has emerged on which almost all parties in the Lebanese arena concur. This term is that an inter-Lebanese solution is the basis for solving all problems and crises in Lebanon. If we carefully consider the endeavors of finding an inter-Lebanese solution, we will find that the United States and its agents are the ones who foil the Lebanese crisis to blackmail and the Palestinians to exhaustion. From this point, we can touch on a more profound fact many people try to ignore. This fact is that linking the Lebanese situation to the Palestinian question and to overall conditions in the area is not a Palestinian desire or the result of Palestinian planning. The situation is integrated and its links are interwoven. If we -- the Palestinians -- like to separate these links, the Israelis will not like it. When the Israelis feel the burden of resistance in the occupied areas, they find no place for their reaction other than Lebanon and when the Palestinian cause makes progress in any arena, the Israelis can do nothing against it except in Lebanon.

Given these axioms, the optimism shown by certain Lebanese toward finding a separate solution to the Lebanese crisis through the U.S. administration, appears groundless and lacks any justification to build on. The more important fact is that the Lebanese crisis is a link in a chain of crises in the area that cannot be solved in the U.S. or European way. The solution can only be found within Lebanon. A comprehensive solution to the region's crises on just bases is the only way out. We do not think the United States is prepared for this.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN RIYADH 30-31 MAY

GF281942 Doha QNA in Arabic 1920 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 28 May (QNA) -- Press reports here today said the GCC foreign ministers conference, which will convene in Riyadh on Sunday, 30 May, will adopt important resolutions in light of the outcome of Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Algiers and Damascus and GCC contacts with Arab countries.

Quoting Gulf sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS predicted that Saudi Arabia will call for an emergency Arab foreign ministers meeting to explain the Gulf views on what is currently taking place and on the new situation in the Gulf region following the recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

The sources said that in the final statement of the GCC foreign ministers conference, the Gulf countries will emphasize the importance of (?effective) solidarity among Arab countries to face the current challenges.

Ministers Convene

LD301610 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1533 GMT 29 May 82

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- The GCC Ministerial Council meeting began here at 1800 at the headquarters of the council General Secretariat. Attending are the foreign ministers of the council's six members and 'Abdallah Bisharah, the council's secretary general.

Kuwaiti Minister Remarks

LD301732 Kuwait KUNA in English 1615 GMT 30 May 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 30 May (KUNA) -- Kuwait Sunday expressed hope that peace would prevail in the Gulf region and at the same time continued contacts with the ambassadors of the big powers here aimed at helping find an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The minister of state for cabinet affairs, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, said Kuwait hopes that the situation in the Gulf region would be more relaxed and that peace and tranquility be restored so that the peoples of the region would devote their energies for development and cooperation.

Talking to newsmen today, the minister disclosed that the Gulf Cooperation Council had attempted in the last two weeks to explore means for the settlement of the 21-month old war between Iraq and Iran and that a GCC emissary was dispatched to the Iraqi, Syrian and Algerian presidents to discuss with them the war situation.

The minister said information obtained and outcome of contacts will be discussed by today's meeting of the Ministerial Council of the GCC which groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the UAE, Bahrain and Oman.

USSR Support for Iran Claimed

JN301810 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] We now have our Riyadh correspondent 'Abdallah ash-Shijni on the telephone with a very important report on the GCC meeting.

[Begin recording] Perhaps it is first time since the establishment of the GCC that a meeting of the council has been as important as the current meeting in Riyadh -- a meeting deriving its importance from the issues on its agenda.

Informed sources told Radio Monte Carlo the GCC states have confirmed information that Moscow has thrown its full weight behind Iran in the Gulf war. The USSR has supplied the Iranian forces with a great quantity of military equipment and hardware along with Soviet, Cuban and East German experts. These supplies began 6 months ago and recently have been intensively augmented, causing concern among GCC states.

An informed source in the GCC General Secretariat told Monte Carlo Radio that Moscow is endeavoring to occupy a prominent position in the current Iranian events and in the post-Khomeyni era. Moscow wants to prevent the rise of a great Arab power in the region that would harm Moscow's desire to obtain oil after 1985, the year in which oil experts expect that Moscow will need [words indistinct]. Naturally, there are [word indistinct] other than this, the most prominent of which is promoting communist ideology in the region, particularly since Moscow has prepared certain Gulf quarters with close cooperation with the Iranian Tudeh Party in order to publicize and absorb communist ideology as much as possible. The informed GCC sources also told Radio Monte Carlo there is another point no less important than the first, namely, Syria's stand alongside Iran in its war with Iraq, especially since Syria has recently established an airlift to Iran similar to the U.S. airlift to Israel in 1973 and supplied Iran with about 350 Soviet tanks.

Syria and Libya have also promised Iran they will supply it with 650 tanks. [end recording]

First Session Concludes

LD302022 Riyadh SPA in English 1916 GMT 30 May 82

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- The foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council tonight concluded the first session of their second emergency meeting on the Iran Iraq war in two weeks. The council's ministers will hold another session tomorrow to initiate a unified stand on the Iraq-Iran conflict.

On arrival here earlier this evening, the Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-Alawi said: "The ministers are expected to take measures to ensure security and stability in the region and discuss the outcome of contacts with other Arab states."

Meanwhile, the Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah said: "The meeting will complete its deliberations on issues raised during the council's last meeting in Kuwait on the current situation in the Gulf and Arab regions." He expressed hope the meeting would be able to devise a unified stand on "Arab solidarity" and formulate measures to keep the region "free from super power conflicts."

In a statement to SPA, the Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani said the meeting would discuss the Arab situation in general and the current developments in the Gulf region in particular.

In a similar statement, the United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah emphasised the importance of the meeting which he said is being held here following intensive contacts and consultations among the GCC states and Arab "concerned" states.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah expressed hope that the outcome of the meeting would be of "great benefits" to the Arab nation and the people of the region.

31 May Session Concludes

LD311114 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1022 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 31 May (SPA) -- The GCC Ministerial Council ended its work at 1245 today. Later today, the council will issue a statement on the outcome of its work.

The council started its work yesterday evening in continuation of its meetings in Kuwait last month. The foreign ministers of the six member-countries, in addition to the secretary general of the council, took part in the council's meetings.

Final Communique Issued

GF311336 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1245 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Manama, 31 May (WAKH) -- The GCC Ministerial Council has expressed the belief that a united Arab stand is necessary for ending the Iraq-Iran war. This came in a final communique issued by the council today at the end of its meetings held at the GCC Secretariat in Riyadh.

The council hopes Iran will respond to efforts to end the war and halt the bloodshed, particularly in the present circumstances that are full of challenges, in order to confront the fierce Zionist onslaught aimed at the entire Islamic entity. The council resolved to strengthen the efforts of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations to end the Iraq-Iran war and to achieve security and stability in the region.

The following is the text of the final communique of the third extraordinary session of the GCC Ministerial Council:

In continuation of the third extraordinary session that began in Kuwait on 22 Rajab 1402 Hegira, corresponding to 15 May 1982, the GCC Ministerial Council resumed its meetings on Sunday and Monday, 7 and 8 Sha'ban 1402 Hegira, 30 and 31 May 1982. The council reviewed the results of contacts initiated by Kuwait and Saudi Arabis with Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. The council also reviewed developments that occurred since the third extraordinary session began, and Iraq's consistent assertion [of its readiness] to withdraw to the international border and what this entails in the way of creating opportunities for a negotiated solution of the Iraq-Iran war -- a solution that would safeguard the legitimate rights of both sides.

The council believes the present circumstances require redoubling of efforts and intensifying mediation to end the war and the bloodshed that have exhausted the two Muslim neighbors in order to preserve their capabilities and rechannel them toward domestic reconstruction and concentration upon rebuilding what the current war between them has destroyed.

The council believes the achievement of a united Arab stand is a basic factor for ending the bloodshed and the war in a manner safeguarding the legitimate rights of the two Muslim countries. In these efforts the council hopes the Islamic Republic of Iran will also respond to the achievement of this objective at this historic and decisive turning point in which the Islamic nation is the target of a fierce Zionist onslaught aimed at the entire Islamic entity.

The council reaffirms its believe that ending the war is an important factor in the region's stability and in consolidating its security while it is surging ahead toward making a positive contribution to Arab, Muslim and international issues.

The council reaffirms that security and stability in the region are the responsibility of the area countries alone, and that an important factor in averting foreign intervention is putting an end to the war between Iraq and Iran. In order to achieve this objective the council has adopted decisions to strengthen the efforts of the ICO, the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations. The council expresses hope that these efforts will be successful and will serve the interests of the two Muslims peoples, the region, and the Arab and Muslim nation.

In this regard, the council lauds the efforts of the Good Offices Committee set up by the ICO in Mecca and looks forward to seeing the results of the committee's endeavors. Out of concern for the consolidation of security and providing assurance to its countries, the council has reviewed the steps taken to safeguard the GCC countries' safety, independence and sovereignty. The council expresses satisfaction at the steps taken in this regard.

SAUDI ARABIA

KINGDOM SEVERS RELATIONS WITH COSTA RICA

LD291208 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Jidda, 29 May (SPA) -- The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has decided to sever all diplomatic and economic relations with the Republic of Costa Rica in view of its decision to transfer its embassy in Israel to occupied Jerusalem, which contravenes international law. This is done in implementation of the resolutions of the 11th Arab summit conference on the severance of relations with any state recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The following is the text of the statement issued today by the Foreign Ministry in this connection:

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regrets the decision of the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem, which contravenes Security Council Resolution No 478/1980 dated 20 August 1980. It reaffirms the illegality of the Israeli measures relating to the annexation of Jerusalem, calls on all states not to recognize such measures and calls on all states with embassies in Jerusalem to transfer them.

What is more regrettable about the decision of the Government of Costa Rica to return its embassy to occupied Jerusalem is that this government was one of the first states to respond to the said Security Council resolution, and that the reasons for the adoption of the said resolution still exist and that this is a time when the ferocity of the hostile Israeli campaign against the Arab Palestinian inhabitants in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories is being intensified.

In accordance with the resolution of the 11th Arab summit conference held in Amman in November 1980, which calls on Arab states to sever all relations with any state recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel or transferring its embassy to it, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has therefore decided to immediately sever all diplomatic and economic relations with the Republic of Costa Rica.

FRENCH EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER ARRIVES 29 MAY

Makes Statement

LD292020 Riyadh SPA in English 1930 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 29 May (SPA) -- France's Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson arrived here tonight from Cairo for a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

He was received on arrival by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

During his stay in the Saudi capital, Mr Cheysson will confer with Prince Sa'ud on developing bilateral relations and questions of common interest. Mr Cheysson is also expected to visit Tunisia and Libya as part of his current tour of the region.

In an airport statement, Mr Cheysson expressed his country's "willingness to shoulder all its responsibilities in the region whether in the framework of the European Community or alone." He said the region was witnessing a "bloody war with more casualties and destruction every day."

He asserted that "the European states have moved towards reaching an end to the Iraq-Iran war in accordance with a new French initiative. Moreover, France is deeply concerned [words indistinct] the region's stability and peace," he added.

Mr Cheysson said his talks with Saudi leaders here would cover a number of issues, including the Middle East and the Palestinian problem. "France's stand is very close to the Saudi Arabian peace plan for the Middle East and we think the time is very ripe for another European intiative," the French foreign minister said.

He expressed his country's appreciation for the kingdom's "stance at all levels."

Mr Cheysson described existing relations between France and Saudi Arabia as "excellent" and praised the outcome of King Khalid's trip to France and French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Saudi Arabia last year.

Mr Cheysson said his visit to the kingdom came at a time "when the regional and international situation has taken a sharp turn." He added that his talks with Prince Sa'ud would cover issues of mutual interest and would provide him a chance to know the kingdom's views on the Middle East issue.

Meets Prince Sa'ud

LD300828 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0802 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, met this morning with Claude Cheysson, French external relations minister, who is visiting the kingdom. Bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.

Meets King Khalid

LD301016 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0945 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- This morning, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, who is visiting the kingdom.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard; Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; the kingdom's ambassador in France, Jamil al-Hujaylan; and the French ambassador in Saudi Arabia, Pierre Rocalve.

Attends Joint Press Conference

LD301716 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, said talks between Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, and His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, together with the crown prince and responsible officials in the kingdom, were fruitful and constructive, and proved the French Government's interest in questions of peace, justice and right.

In a speech at the joint press conference with Mr Cheysson, his highness said the viewpoints of both sides on the issues discussed were identical. His highness noted that Mr Cheysson affirmed France's interest in the Middle East issue and in granting the Palestinian people their right to self-determination. His highness strssed that was a major boost to the search for peace in the area.

In his speech at the press conference, Mr Cheysson affirmed the interest of the kingdom and France in the need for peace and justice to prevail in the Middle East. He described his talks with Saudi officials as positive and constructive.

Mr Cheysson referred to his country's and the European Common Market countries' interest in achieving peace and justice in the Middle East. He stressed the right of the peoples of the area to self-determination, to form the kind of government they desire to resolve their differences through discussions.

Touching on the Iran-Iraq war, Mr Cheysson expressed his regret for the continuation of this war, which represents a threat to security. He affirmed his country's desire for the restoration of peace between the two countries and respect for the rights of others.

He expressed his thanks for the efforts of the World Islamic Congress to end the war, and expressed France's readiness to support the efforts exerted to solve this crisis. He said he discussed this issue during his talks with the kingdom's officials.

Answering a correspondent's question, Mr Cheysson affirmed that his country does not recognize Israel's occupation of Arab territories, and said France voted for UN Resolution 242 and insists on its implementation. He noted that France's stand was confirmed by French President Francois Mitterrand during his visit to At-Taif last September. It includes the right of all countries of the area, including the Palestinian people, to self-determination and to establish their own state, the right of all states to live in peace within recognized borders and the need to solve problems through negotiation. France also believes the Palestinian Liberation Organization is the representative of the Palestinian people and rejects any unilateral change carried out by force.

Answering another question, he rejected external interference in the Middle East area, and stressed the need for area countries to resolve their differences by themselves. He said Europe, and particularly France, is ready to offer any initiative, once requested through the legitimate authorities of the area's states.

He referred to the fact that his country has agreed to an increase in the number of the United Nations forces in Lebanon and has sent a unit of the French Army to work under United Nations command in response to a request from the countries concerned.

He referred to the French premier's visit to Lebanon and said the aim was to register the French Government's stand on the side of Lebanon, and it will remain so as long as the Lebanese authorities wish, despite the murder of the French ambassador and the explosion at the French Embassy in Beirut.

Departs 30 May

LD301508 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1432 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, left Riyadh this afternoon for Tunisia following a 2-day visit to the kingdom. He was seen off by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; Mr Salim Sunbul, head of protocol at the Foreign Ministery; and a number of officials.

DEVELOPMENT FUND HALTS AID TO ZAIRE 30 MAY

LD301050 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1020 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 May (SPA) -- Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, has announced that the Saudi Development Fund has stopped aid to Zaire because of the decision of its government to restore relations with the Israeli enemy and because of its intransigent stands toward the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. In a press statement today the minister said the same subject will be proposed at the meeting to be held by the OPEC Fund in Gabon next week. He praised Arab-African cooperation and described it as genuine cooperation based not on selfish but mutual interest. He mentioned that the meetings of the Arab-African Bank recently held in Khartoum made clear the extent of the expansion of Arab-African cooperation in the sphere of development.

MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE

LD311832 Riyadh SPA in English 1202 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 31 May (SPA) -- Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has arrived here with a message from King Hassan II to Saudi King Khalid. The message is believed to be part of continuous consultations between the two countries. It had earlier been reported in Morocco that Mr Boucetta would also be going to Iraq to deliver a message to President Saddam Husayn.

UAE

YAR PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT 30 MAY

GF301918 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1828 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 May (WAKH) -- YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani arrived in Abu Dhabi today on an official 1-day visit that will be followed by a similar visit to Saudi Arabia.

During his visit, the YAR prime minister will deliver a message from YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan on bilateral relations and the efforts being made to clear the Arab air.

The YAR official made a statement in which he said this visit is in the framework of contacts being made among the brothers in the region to stregthen cooperation and solidarity among the people of the one nation. It should be noted that the YAR prime minister's visit to the UAE is a continuation of a tour he began last week by visiting Qatar and Kuwait.

Departs for Saudi Arabia

GF310912 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0844 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 May (WAKH) -- YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani left here for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia this morning.

During his visit to the UAE, Dr al-'Iryani delivered a message to the UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on bilateral relations and current developments in the region.

It is noteworthy that the YAR prime minister is currently touring a number of Arab states to deliver messages from the YAR president to leaders of the states he is visiting.

In a statement made prior to his departure, Dr al-'Iryani praised the important positive role played by the UAE at all levels in order to bolster fraternal relations among the Arab brothers and to serve the Arab nation's interests.

He said that during his meeting with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, he felt a great understanding for the content of the message delivered from his brother, the YAR president.

He also stressed the necessity to exert efforts throughout the Arab arena to resolve disputes and bolster fraternal relations among Arab countries.

YAR

AL-'IRYANI DEPARTS FOR UAE, SAUDI ARABIA

JN301335 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani left San'a' this afternoon, heading a delegation on a visit to the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

In a predeparture statement to SABA', Dr al-'Iryani said: This visit is a continuation of the previous tour and aims at continuing our talks with the officials in the fraternal states to further strengthen our solidarity and bilateral relations, consider future plans in light of recent developments in the region and in the Arab and international arenas and exchange viewpoints on the current situation in the region and the Arab arena.

Dr al-'Iryani said he carries two messages from brother leader President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brothers His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, UAE president; and His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, dealing with bilateral relations and joint Arab efforts to find adquate means to restore Arab solidarity in the present critical circumstances we are all experiencing and which call for unifying Arab forces in one trench.

Concluding his statement, the brother prime minister expressed confidence his present tour will achieve its objectives, because they are common objectives sought by everyone in the interest of our common interests and legitimate issues.

The brother prime minister and accompanying delegation were seen off by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; several members of the Cabinet and Consultative Council and the UAE and Saudi charge d'affaires in San'a'.

Comments on USSR, PDRY Ties

PM281101 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 25 May 82 pp 11, 15

[YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Kharin al-Iryani interview with Ahmad an-Nu'man in Kuwait — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you see a need for an Arab summit conference to discuss the present Arab situation and the Iraq-Iran war? Is the time right?

[Answer] I believe the Islamic mediation has a wider scope than the Arab circle and is therefore the ideal way of seeking an end to this war. That is why I do not think holding an Arab summit for this purpose is the right solution. The Islamic mediation circle includes a large number of African, Asian and Arab states. As you know, so far no positive results have been achieved, and the mediation should be given another chance. The Arabs should play a role in the efforts to stop the war, as part of the Islamic mediation.

[Question] What is the cause of the tension between the YAR and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] The claim that Yemeni-Soviet relations are tense is absolutely untrue. We were surprised by Kuwaiti press reports on this matter. It is not true. The Soviet ambassador is in San'a' and we hold consultations with him on issues of interest to the two friendly countries, with a view to strengthening, not weakening, relations. YAR-Soviet relations are as strong and cordial as they were after the president's historic visit to Moscow. The success of that visit provided the best proof of the level of our relations.

[Question] Some news agencies claimed a third civil war between the two parts of Yemen was imminent. Has the Ta'izz summit meeting decisively averted this?

[Answer] The agency reports about a dispute between the two parts of Yemen were a figment of their imagination. As for the meetings held between the leaders of the two parts of the country, they are a natural and continuing phenomenon.

[Question] Is North Yemen playing a role in the current mediation between Muscat and Aden, and what, in your opinion, are the likely results?

[Answer] We are aware of the mediation but we play no role in it. As you know, we have normal relations with the Sultanate of Oman. We have an embassy in Muscat and they have an embassy in San'a'. It makes us happy to see tense relations between two Arab countries return to normal.

[Question] It has been reported that parties will soon be allowed in Yemen. How true is this? What results has the National Dialogue Committee achieved? When will the General People's Congress be held, and when will the direct People's Assembly elections mentioned by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih be held?

[Answer] As far as parties are concerned, there is an article in the constitution governing this matter. This article has not been amended, and it says that parties are not allowed in Yemen. When an elected People's Assembly emerges -- elections will undoubtedly be held -- then the constitution will be amended in a normal way. I wish to emphasize that, as long as this article is part of the constitution, no parties may be allowed.

The National Dialogue Committee has almost completed its work and the final draft of the national charter has been completed. The committee has now been entrusted with the task of preparing for the general congress, which we hope will be held before the month of Ramadan. After the General People's Congress and the approval of the national charter, preparations for free and direct elections will begin. This process will undoubtedly take a long time because there is no electoral roll and no designation of constituencies.

U.S. URGED TO ADOPT 'ACTIVE' STAND ON PALESTINE

NC292324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA) -- The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH confirms that the Palestinian autonomy negotiations have reached a deadlock because of the complete contradiction between the Egyptian and Israeli stand on the concept of autonomy.

In its commentary to be published Sunday, AL-JUMHURIYAH outlines that there is a great difference between an administrative autonomy sponsored by Israel, which ultimately means the annexation of the occupied Arab territory as Israel has repeatedly declared, and the Egyptian view on autonomy, which leads to the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to their living in their land.

The paper notes the U.S. stand and says: We hope the United States will adopt an active stand now that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has announced the beginning of a comprehensive policy toward the whole Middle East.

The paper also notes Alexander Haig's statement that the status of Jerusalem is negotiable and says the peace forces of the world hope the United States will adopt a specific stand regarding the differences over Palestinian autonomy so as to achieve the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people and to push the area along the road of real peace.

SUDAN'S NUMAYRI ARRIVES IN CAIRO 1 JUNE

NC011004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 Jun (MENA) -- Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri arrived in Cairo at 1040 [0840 GMT] today on a 4-hour brief visit to Egypt after which he will return to Khartoum.

President Husni Mubarak headed the officials who welcomed President Numayri at the airport. The two presidents flew by helicopter to Al-Qubbah Palace where the Egyptian-Sudanese talks are to be held.

President Numayri is accompanied by a delegation including First Secretary of the Sudanese Socialist Union Central Committee Badr ad-Din Sulayman, Secretary General of Egyptian-Sudanese Affairs Kamal 'Amr and presidential press adviser Muhammad Mahjub.

MINISTRY SOURCE REJECTS TALKS IN JERUSALEM

GF301712 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 29 May 82 p 22

[Exclusive report from Cairo]

[Text] A source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has told AL-ANBA' that Egypt has informed the United States and Israel of its commitment not to hold any meetings in Jerusalem because so far, out of the 31 sessions of autonomy talks, 17 sessions have been held on the ministerial level and 14 on the technical level, and none have been held in Jerusalem. The source said: These talks can be held any place other than Jerusalem to reach ideas that do not conflict with the Palestinians' right to participate in the determination of their future. Thus, Cairo is ready to hold these talks if the Israeli side is determined to resume them somewhere inside or outside Israel. Jerusalem is still under discussion by the two sides, and the reasons which prevented President as-Sadat from visiting Jerusalem after his initiative still exist: reasons which preclude holding any official or unofficial talks in it.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ATTACKS ISRAELI STAND ON JERUSALEM

NC282330 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2307 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA) -- In its edition for tomorrow, Saturday, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasizes that Israel's adamant stand on Jerusalem will only lead to further complications and perhaps to an escalation of the situation in the whole area. This is because its insistence appears as a discordant and unjustifiable matter to the extent that Israel depicts Jerusalem as Israel's eternal capital, as if there were eternal and temporary capitals.

The paper says that, regardless of the stands of some small states such as Zaire, it is apparent that Israel stands alone on this extremely sensitive issue.

The paper adds that Egypt took a positive stand on this problems when President Husni Mubarak rejected the invitation extended to him by Israel to visit Jerusalem and that Egypt holds the view that the status of Jerusalem has not been finally determined and that it is imperative that negotiations be held on its status.

LIBYAN CLAIMS OF EGYPTIAN TROOPS IN IRAQ DENIED

NC291050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA) -- An official source has denied the JANA allegations that the Egyptian authorities had recalled 35,000 military technicians who had been demobilized from the army in the wake of the Camp David agreements and thrust them into the Iraqi-Iranian war, together with the Egyptian military cadres who had preceeded them.

The source also denied the JANA allegations that this step was taken within the framework of the implementation of President Husni Mubarak's delaration of Egypt's stand alongside Iraq and its support for it in its war against Iran.

The source said this matter is unfounded. What confirms the falsehood of these allegations is that when the Camp David agreement was signed, there was no Iraqi-Iranian war and President Husni Mubarak was not president of the republic at the time.

MUBARAK, NDP MEMBERS DISCUSS IRAQ-IRAN WAR

NC311606 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a meeting today attended by members of the National Democratic Party's Political Bureau. Dr Usamah al-Baz [Foreign Ministry first under secretary and the president's adviser on political affairs] stated after the meeting that the Political Bureau discussed developments in the Iraq-Iran war and their effects on the security and stability of the states in the area. He said: These developments cause concern and call for continuous followup. Our position is determined on the basis of national interest. It is based on a national premise and not a regional premise. We view the situation in the area on the basis of putting an end to the fighting. The continuation of the fighting will lead to an escalation and increase in tension in the Gulf states, particularly the Arab Gulf states with which we are linked by fateful interests.

With regard to the initiatives in this respect, he said: No specific Arab initiative has as yet crystallized, but there are continuous Arab contacts and meetings, particularly among the states concerned, to follow up the situation. He added: We support the position of anticipation and movement [mawqif at-taraqqub wa at-taharruk] with a view to putting an end to this conflict.

We support the efforts, whether they are Islamic or Arab or within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement, and we are not content with supporting them but are assisting by all means. There is a possibility of shifting this activity to the UN Security Council.

Regarding Egypt's position in case the Iranian forces cross the Iraqi border, Dr al-Baz said: Egypt does not determine its position on the basis of speculation. If this happens, Egypt will consider it a dangerous development in view of its effects on the states in the area.

Regarding the possibility of convening a summit conference in Washington [among Egypt, Israel and the United States], he said: Egypt has no knowledge of this, but we are consulting many states, including the United States, on the autonomy issue and on ways to give momentum to the negotiations, as well as on the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation in the Middle East and in Lebanon.

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR END TO IRAQ-IRAN WAR

NC010743 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jun (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has called on Iraq and Iran to end their war immediately and without preconditions preparatory to reaching a just settlement of the existing differences between the two countries.

In an interview published in AL-AHRAM today, President Mubarak asked the Security Council to make concerted efforts to end the fighting and urged all the council's member states to give top priority to ending the Iraqi-Iranian war to avoid its serious effects on the peoples in the area.

President Mubarak added that Egypt feels great anxiety about the continued war in the Gulf, its serious implications and its negative reflection upon the people's security and safety in the area.

President Mubarak stressed that the continuation of the fighting and the escalation of tension would greatly harm the vital interests of the two Muslim peoples and the various Arab and Islamic states. Moreover, it would weaken the Nonaligned Movement, open the door to foreign powers to exploit the situation and harm the vital interests of the peoples in the area. He said Egypt's principled stand stems from its adherence to the real interests of all the Arab and Islamic peoples and from its keen interest in ending the fighting as soon as possible to spare shedding the blood of the two Muslim peoples and to safeguard the interest, security and stability of all the states in the area.

President Mubarak urged all the Arab and Islamic states to put the high interests of the two states above any other consideration and to be up to their historical responsibility commensurate with the seriousness of the situation, the threatened vast interests and the gravity of the challenge. This calls for increasing the current efforts to end the war immediately and without preconditions preparatory to reaching a just settlement of the existing differences.

The president also called for consolidation of the Security Council's efforts end the fighting and for top priority to be given to this question because of the dangers that may result from the exacerbation of the situation in this vital area and from the continued conflict which would not be in the interest of the peoples in the area.

MUBARAK INTERVIEWED ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR, U.S. TIES

GF281450 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 May 82 pp 1, 17

[Interview granted by President Husni Mubarak to AS-SIYASAH Editor in Chief Ahmad al-Jarallah in Cairo -- no date given]

[Text] Forty-eight hours after the significant developments that occurred in the Iraqi-Iranian war, I found myself in Cairo talking with President Husni Mubarak, the man who knows that his country constitutes the Arab homeland's demographic and geographic depth. The Egyptian president realized I had come to see him with questions about unusual phenomena. The president's answers were clear and frank. However, he said: "Not everything is for publication." Perhaps clarifying the picture for the information media will help in conveying a clear picture to the Arab world.

I said to President Mubarak: Let us come to the point at once. It appears you have something to say and you will allow me to publish part of it. A lengthy dialogue followed, part of which follows:

Question: What is happening on the Arab scene?

President Mubarak: One needs to pause before what is happening. It is necessary to have a consolidated Arab consensus that will reunite tha Arab family. The Arab world is exposed to anyone who has interests [in it]. The reason is that we, the Arab states, have balance sheets with credit and debit columns for and against each other. Those who are for the "credit" side are unreasonably extremist, and those who are for the "debit" side behave in a manner that is contrary to the norms of national behavior. Therefore, I reiterate: The Arab world now needs to put an end to its unjustifiable fears so that it can be reunited.

Question: Mr President, how do you view the results of the Iraqi-Iranian war?

President Mubarak: Our assessment is that Iran will stop at the international border with Iraq because it realizes any crossing of the border will upset the network of interests in the region, be they international, regional or Arab interests. Just as Iran has rejected the Iraqi incursion into its territory, an Iranian encroachment [into Iraqi territory] will be equally rejected by us. We are watching the situation closely. Contacts on the international level have been held with those concerned.

We supported Iraq with arms and ammunition so it could defend itself when we found that arms were pouring into the other side from every direction, but we have not sent troops. However, although there is a sizeable Egyptian community in Iraq and there may be Egyptian volunteers from within this community, we definitely have not participated militarily with men from the Egyptian Army.

Question: Iran says it has no expansionist ambitions, although it seeks to topple the Iraqi regime?

President Mubarak: Our information is that Iran will stop at the international border. Otherwise, the Arab stand will be different from what it is now. As for the talk about changing the regime in Iraq, this will not be in the region's interest because it means facing the unknown -- a political leadership that may not resolve the issue of the desired peace in the region. In any case, psychological warfare usually intensifies in the wake of circumstances similar to those that have occurred. When an army advances, unless the political leadership can control its exultation, its demands will increase -- and these demands may be illogical.

Question: Mr President, how do you see the Arab family being united?

President Mubarak: Of course, we do not want to embarrass anyone. We believe it is external assistance to Iran that has tipped the balance in the Iraqi-Iranian war. This assistance comes from foreign countries. Anyone who is analyzing what is happening honestly and sincerely, will conclude that there are those who want a war of attrition in the region -- that is, the oil-producing region -- so that external parties can benefit and the region will be the scapegoat.

Question: Mr President, what is your understanding of the facilities which the United States enjoys in Egypt?

President Mubarak: There is some talk in the Arab world about the facilities granted to the United States, both in Egypt or in the Sultanate of Oman. Such talk takes a turn that is contrary to the facts. These facilities are different from the permanent facilities that are granted to other superpowers in other Arab countries. We view the United States as a friendly country; others view the Soviet Union as a friendly country. Our friendship with the United States is within the framework of our national [wataniyah] and pan-Arab [qawmiyah] interests, and does not infringe on our national sovereignty. Therefore, the facilities are granted to the United States for a specific purpose and for a limited period, and they are much less than the facilities granted to other states in other Arab countries. The facilities we grant to the United States are within the framework of conditions on which an understanding has been reached. They are not facilities for a permanent presence, like those that others may be providing. They are facilities that do not undermine the concept of national [wataniyah] or pan-Arab [qawmiyah] sovereignty. This is a point I wanted to underline.

Question: The part of the interview that is for publication is concluded. What remains is for the information of an Arab state that has proved to be important to the Arab world, which was affected by its absence, even though it was not affected by the Arab world's absence.

MAY BLAMES ARABS FOR ANXIETY OVER GULF WAR

NC310832 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0633 GMT 31 May 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 May (MENA) -- The newspapers MAY and AL-JUMHURIYAH comment on the wave of anxiety pervading the Arab world as a result of developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and speculations and forebodings about the fate and results of this war.

The newspaper MAY expresses the belief that some Arab parties, in their various stands, bear responsibility for this anxiety which is dominating the area and which is justified by the exploitation by other Arab parties of the atmosphere of war, destruction and division that has pervaded the area.

In tomorrow's [31 May] commentary, the newspaper points out responsibility for the [present situation in] the Arab world falls on those who have encouraged this war from the beginning and supported this or that side, unaware that it is always easier to call for and launch wars as a means of [settling] a dispute than it is to halt wars and freeze aggression at a certain phase.

MAY refers in this respect to Egypt's warnings from the beginning that the price would be exorbitant by all standards and on all levels. The paper warns that the continuation of the war not only means the sapping of the area's resources and capabilities but also leaves the door wide open to foreign intervention under the pretext of [preserving] the Gulf's security and safeguarding its sovereignty and freedom or, at other times, of supporting a regime or government.

MAY concludes its commentary by saying that when Egypt declared it was in touch with all the parties in the area in order to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, it thus answered those who imagined Egypt had retreated from its stand of working to achieve a peaceful settlement of this dispute.

AL-AKHBAR WARNS OF DANGERS IN IRAQ-IRAN WAR

NC292340 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA) -- The newspaper AL-AKHBAR says that the Iranians and those standing behind and moving them may not hesitate to storm or invade the Iraqi border because they have a big objective.

In an editorial to be published Sunday [30 May], the paper says Iran's objective of invading Iraq is to dominate it and to turn it into a country faithful to the Islamic revolution's religion of Khomeyni. Iranians and those behind them would then be able to achieve this in Iran, Iraq and Syria, and thereafter easily remove Jordan from their way and direct pressure on the Arab oil in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. The paper bases this on the support given by the recent meeting of the so-called Steadfastness and Confrontation Front for Iran in its war against Iraq.

The paper concludes its commentary by asserting that the present situation in the area warns of unforeseeable dangers.

In light of all this, Egypt can only hope to offer what is good and to foil what is evil and to urge the Arabs and the Muslims to rise up to their duties to mend their division so that we may all be cautious of the plots of evil and deceit of falsehood.

AL-AKHBAR HIGHLIGHTS SAUDI CALL FOR ARAB ACTION

NC310930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA) -- Today's Cairo papers give prominence to the commentary broadcast by Riyadh radio yesterday, and which was quoted by news agencies, saying Saudi Arabia demands Arab action by the moderate Arab states, which are in the majority, and excluding all the extremist Arab states.

The commentary is the main headline in the AL-AKHBAR paper which highlights the opinion of the observers who say the new Saudi stand discloses Riyadh's resentment over the failure of the recent discussions its Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal held in Algeria and Syria aimed at bringing the views closer together and at realizing a rapprochement between the moderate and extremist states in the Arab world.

In its commentary, Riyadh radio also said it was neither acceptable nor logical to freeze the forces and resources in the Arab world in anticipation of Arab unanimity which will not be realized. The radio added that some states try to portray the action by a moderate Arab majority as fraught with dangers -- emotional fears on the land of reality. [as received]

GHALI, CHEYSSON DISCUSS MIDEAST DEVELOPMENTS

NC291612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 May (MENA) -- French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson stopped over in Cairo airport this afternoon en route to Saudi Arabia for a 1-day visit. He was met and seen off at the airport by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, who held a 1-hour talk with him.

Dr Ghali said the talks were cordial and positive and they dealt with the latest important developments in relation to Egypt's efforts concerning the Palestinian people's rights, the Iraqi-Iranian war and possible solutions to the Iran-Iraq conflict.

He added that France is interested in knowing Egypt's views on the most important issues in the area.

Cheysson is due to pass through Alexandria tomorrow en route to Libya.

COMMENTARY PRAISES MITTERRAND MIDEAST STATEMENTS

NC311505 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 May 82

[Ahmed al-Qasir commentary: "The French Position Is an Important Addition to the Settlement of the Palestinian issue"]

[Text] Perhaps one of the important positive developments that has taken place recently on the international level, particularly by the West European states, in support of the Palestinian issue, in its capacity as the crux of the Middle East conflict, was French President Mitterrand's statements yesterday. Mitterrand called for the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and stressed that Israel must also understand that the Palestinian people have a legitimate right to establish their own state in line with the historic and social reality in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, particularly since Israel has received all the guarantees it needs.

These statements by the French president, which clearly explain Western Europe's understanding of the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own independent state on their national soil, acquire special importance in light of the following considerations:

1. These statements are considered a positive step by the West European states toward a full understanding of the Arab viewpoint regarding the need to solve the Palestinian issue as the basis for finding a political settlement in the Middle East -- this is in view of the prominent position which France occupies in the European community.

2. This call for the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip comes shortly after Mitterrand's visit to Israel, which Israel considered as a turning point in France's position toward it after the lukewarm relations that existed between the two countries under the government of Giscard d'Estaing.

3. These statements are considered an encouragement to the West European states, which have been hesitant about frankly declaring their position on the Palestinian issue. They are also considered an invitation by France to its sister states to undertake positive action to support the efforts which Egypt and the United States have begun to find a comprehensive political settlement that will ensure the legitimate rights of all the peoples of the area.

4. These statements come at a time when the autonomy talks among Egypt, Israel and the United States have reached a deadlock because of Israel's insistence on a specific view of the autonomy concept. At the same time, they are considered support for the Egyptian viewpoint regarding the need to reach a declaration of principles acceptable to the Palestinians and can place them on the road to self-determination.

5. These statements are considered a confirmation of the energetic French activity recently witnessed by the Arab area and manifested in French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson's surprise visit to some Arab capitals and France's announcement concerning its readiness to play a positive role to prevent a deterioration of the situation in the Gulf area.

6. The French president's statements also come at a time when the Middle East, particularly the Gulf area, is witnessing serious developments following Iran's threats to invade Iraq and the Gulf states after the fall of Khorramshahr -- with all the serious consequences to the area which these developments represent. This is in addition to the dangerous state of tension that prevails in southern Lebanon and Israel's repeated threats to invade it.

While we welcome President Mitterrand's call on Israel to understand the right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state on their national soil, we call on the whole European Community to undertake an energetic, positive activity to bolster the French president's position. This will have the greatest impact on strengthening the efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just political settlement in the area.

REUTER CITED ON POSSIBLE CAIRO VISIT BY BOUCETTA

NC300558 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Rabat say Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta is expected to arrive in Cairo today. REUTER says that the talks will center on the current crisis within the OAU after the member states have split into two groups -- one supporting Morocco and the other supporting the Polisario, which is fighting the Moroccan forces for the independence of the Western Sahara.

A Foreign Ministry official has stated that Egypt has received no official notification of the visit but that it welcomes Boucetta's visit if he decides to come to Cairo.

BUTRUS GHALI RETURNS TO CAIRO, MAKES STATEMENT

NC282014 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali returned to Cairo tonight at the end of his visit to Portugal and Belgium.

Ghali said he delivered two messages from President Husni Mubarak to the Portuguese president and the king of Belgium connected with the situation in the Middle East. He said he had talks with officials in the two countries dealing with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them. He added that he led the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the joint Egyptian-European committee which discussed Egyptian-European relations.

Dr Ghali reviewed with Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert the Middle East situation following the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and the Iraqi-Iranian war. Dr Ghali stopped over at Zurich Airport for 2 hours today on his way to Cairo after attending the meeting in Brussels of the EEC-Egypt cooperation council.

ISRAELI INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES 31 MAY

NC312034 Cairo MENA In Arabic 1955 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 31 May (MENA) -- Israeli Minister of Industry and Commerce Gid'on Pat arrived in Cairo this evening on a 2-day visit at the invitation of the Ministry of Industry. During the visit, he will hold talks with Industry Ministry officials on strengthening industrial cooperation between the two countries.

The Israeli minister was met at the airport by Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources Fu'ad Abu Zaghlah.

NDP DELEGATION, BUTRUS GHALI LEAVE FOR ISRAEL

NC301019 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] A National Democratic Party delegation led by deputy leader of the party Dr Mustafa Khalil left Cairo for Israel this morning on a visit of several days during which it will hold talks with the Israeli Labor Party on relations between the two parties.

[According to Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1540 GMT on 29 May "The Egyptian delegation includes Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah and the official in charge of NDP organizational affairs, Kamal ash-Shadhili."]

MUBARAK FORMS NDP SECRETARIAT GENERAL 31 MAY

NC311922 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] In his capacity as the leader of the National Democratic Party [NDP], President Husni Mubarak today issued a decision forming the NDP Secretariat General as follows:

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, secretary general

Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, Albert Barsum Salamah, Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, Muhammad Rashwan, Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan and Mukhtar Hasan Hani, members of the party Secretariat General

Safwat ash-Sharif, secretary for information

Kamal ash-Shadhili, secretary for organizational affairs

Sayyid Zaki, secretary for craftsmen's affairs

Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid, Dr Shafiq Balba' and Dr Ibrahim Shalabi, members of the Secretariat General

Dr 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din, secretary for youth affairs

As-Sayyid 'Ali Mansur, secretary for professional affairs

Dr Suhayr al-Qalamawi, secretary for women's affairs

Dr Mustafa Sa'id and Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, members of the Secretariat General

Muhammad Mahdi Shuman, secretary for peasants' affairs

'Izzat Ghaydan, secretary for commercial and industrial activity

Ahmad al-'Imadi, secretary for workers' affairs.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 725

JN281656 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 May 82

[Communique No 725 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sons of Iraq, who are waging a just war against the Iranian enemy, repulsing its unjust aggression against our land and people, inflicting heavy losses on it and offering massive sacrifices along the path of honor, sovereignty and glory, will remain seekers of justice and right until the ruling Khomeyni clique in Iran returns to its senses, gives up its aggressive stands and expansionist ambitions against the Iraqi people and their holy land and abandons its intrigues against our national and pan-Arab sovereignty and dignity.

The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. An enemy troop concentration was sighted in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd. Our forces pounded it, killing six.

2. Our air force today launched strong raids against enemy concentrations and positions north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area and wset of the Karun River, scoring direct and very effective hits and destroying a number of enemy tanks, vehicles, troop concentrations and large quantities of military equipment and various weapons. All our aircraft returned safely to base except one aircraft, which crashed inside enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of its pilot.

3. Five were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

4. Four were killed in the Sumar area.

5. One vehicle, one gun and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Al-Muhammarah area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 15 killed and 2 vehicles, 1 gun and 1 hardware stockpile destroyed.

6. Our sacrifices: five martyrs in all sectors.

7. This morning, the Iranian enemy shelled the city of Basra with heavy artillery aiming at civilian sectors and vital installations in the city. While announcing this, we warn the enemy for the last time that any other attempts to shell Iraqi civilian positions with artillery or any other means will be met with reciprocal strikes against civilian installations everywhere in Iran.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 May 1982

Communique No 726

JN291600 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA) -- Iraqi fighter planes today attacked Iranian positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the operations theater, scoring effective hits before returning safely to base.

Communique No 726 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening said Iraqi forces killed 14 Iranians and destroyed 1 hardware stockpile in the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area and in other areas of the operations theater. The following is the text of Communique No 726:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions in the Al-Muhammarah area, killing 12.

2. Our fighter planes today attacked enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern operational sector, scoring effective hits, before returning safely to base.

3. Two were killed and one hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 14 killed and 1 hardware stockpile detroyed.

4. Our sacrifices: five martyrs in all sectors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 May 1982

Communique No 727

JN301632 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 May 82

[Communique No 727 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our ground, air and naval forces, which have been fighting Iranian enemy forces for over 20 months, assert their determination to strongly confront the enemy's blatant aggression and their ability to destroy the dreams of the ruling clique in Iran and teach this clique hard lessons about the need to respect the sovereignty, dignity and rights of Iraq and the Arab nation. The results of activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. In retaliation for the enemy's crime of shelling civilian sectors and vital installations in Iraqi cities and in implementation of the warning issued by the Armed Forces General Command in Communique No 725 on 28 May 1982, late this afternoon our bold air force aircraft raided Khark Island, is located at the head of the Arab Gulf, and the Tabriz refinery, which is located in northwestern Iran, scoring very effective hits and inflicting damage. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

Our fighter planes and helicopters today also attacked the enemy's positions, concentrations and vital targets in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits and heavy losses. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

2. The results of our forces' activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

A. Nine were killed in the Sumar area.
B. Five were killed and four tanks, five vehicles, one rocket launcher and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area.
C. Three were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Nowsud area.
D. Three were killed in the Bostan area.
E. One vehicle was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
F. One excavator was destroyed in the Mehran area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 20 killed and 4 tanks, 7 vehicles, 1 rocket launcher, 1 excavator and 1 hardware stockpile destroyed.

3. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: seven martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: two vehicles were damaged.
C. This morning, the enemy shelled the village of Panjwin with heavy artillery, injuring some civilians. At noon today the enemy shelled our civilian installations in Basra, causing some casualties and losses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 May 1982

Communique No 728

JN311636 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 May 82

[Communique No 728 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If then anyone transgresses the prohibition against you, transgress ye likewise against him. But fear God, and know that God is with those who restrain themselves. [Koranic verse]

In support of rights and in defense of the sanctity of Iraq's people and dear soil, our valiant soldiers continued fighting the racist Iranian enemy. The results were as follows:

1. In confirmation of our absolute ability to reply strongly to the enemy's intransigence, rashness, criminal acts and stands and shelling of the civilian quarters and installations, late this afternoon the city of Gilan-e Gharb and its vital installations were violently and intensively shelled, scoring accurate hits and inflicting massive losses.

2. The known enemy losses in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today were as follows:

Nine were killed in the Mehran area.
Four were killed and one tank, three vehicles, one 106-mm gun and one excavator were destroyed in the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 13 killed and 1 tank, 3 vehicles, 1 gun and 1 excavator destroyed.

3. Our sacrifices:

In personnel: eight martyrs in all sectors.
In equipment: one tank and two vehicles were damaged.

This morning and late this afternoon the enemy shelled the city of Basra and its civilian sectors and installations with heavy artillery, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 May 1982

KHARK OIL TERMINAL STOPS LOADING TANKERS

JN311722 Baghdad INA in English 1655 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] London, 31 May (INA) -- Iran has informed several owners of oil tankers that loading operations in the Iranian oil terminal of Khark Island in the Arab Gulf were stopped, well-informed sources said. The sources said the Iranian decision came shortly after the Iraqi planes bombed yesterday the terminal's loading piers.

The sources quoting information received from Tehran as saying that at least two piers were severely damaged by the Iraqi raid. Three oil tankers were waiting to be loaded in the terminal at the time of the raid but no confirmed information were abailable whether they were hit or not, the sources said.

SYRIAN FIGHTER PLANE VIOLATES AIRSPACE 30 MAY

JN311020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 31 May 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 31 May (INA) -- A responsible military source has stated that a Syrian fighter plane violated Iraqi airspace yesterday morning at a point west of ('Akashat).

In a statement to INA today, the source said the Syrian fighter plane entered Iraqi airspace at 1110 yesterday and flew 30 km, as far as Al-Qa'im, before returning to Syrian territory.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON SHARON'S STATEMENT

JN301045 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May (INA) -- A Foreign Ministry spokesman has said the recent statements by Ari'el Sharon, the Zionist entity's war minister, put the Arab nation to the real test of assuming its responsibilities for warding off the threats that are being posed to its existence, freedom and future.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said these statements, which are the best and clearest evidence of the alliance that exists between the Tel Aviv and Tehran regimes are, first of all, a strong, direct and resounding slap in the face of the Syrian and Libyan regimes which insisted on allying themselves with this regime and supplying it with weapons and funds.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed the arms cooperation between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes against the Iraqi land, people and army makes every Arab, who previously cooperated with the Khomeyni regime and regardless of the reasons for this cooperation in the past, committed to supporting Iraq in its battle against this evil alliance because it is not directed against Iraq alone but also against the Arab nation.

The following is the text of the statement:

The statements made by Ari'el Sharon, the Zionist entity's war minister, overtly and officially revealing the truth of the arms cooperation between the Zionist entity and the Khomeyni regime put the Arab nation to the real test of assuming its responsibilities for warding off the threats that are being posed to its existence, freedom and future.

These statements, which are considered the best and clearest evidence of the alliance that exists between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes are, first of all, a strong, direct and resounding slap in the face of the Syrian and Libyan regimes, which, while being aware of the evil intentions and suspect alliances of the charlatan and fraudulent regime in Tehran, insisted on allying themselves with this regime against Iraq and on supplying it with weapons and funds to enable it to stab the Iraqi people in the back, the people who have shed their sons' blood to protect the Syrian Arab territories and to liberate Palestine in all the battles that the Arab nation had waged against Zionism.

These statements must also be a warning to the other Arab quarters which had defended the Khomeyni regime and established relations of friendship with it under the pretext that it is a friend of the Arabs and is adopting their stands on Zionism.

The arms cooperation between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes against the Iraqi land, people and army commits every Arab to review his stand, regardless of the justifications he had in the past, and to support Iraq in its just battle against this evil alliance because it is not directed against Iraq alone but also against the Arab nation.

Under these circumstances, these statements commit the Arabs to shouldering their responsibilities in support of Iraq with all their means and in an unreserved manner, because Iraq is fighting an evil alliance which has been seeking, through deception and treachery, to implement the biggest conspiracy in contemporary history since the conspiracy of the usurpation of Palestine, by dealing blows to the eastern flank of the Arab homeland, fragmenting it and bringing it within the Zionist-Khomeyni alliance.

These clear and official statements by the Zionist entity's war minister confirm what we have always stated -- that the battle Iraq is waging against the Iranian enemy is a pan-Arab battle in which all Arabs must defend the principles of the common Arab fate, the Arab League Charter and the collective Arab defense pact.

BAGHDAD PERSIAN COMMENTS ON IRAN'S 'VICTORY'

NC271932 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 27 May 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: Can you hear the sounds of trumpets and empty drums? Can you hear the howling of these wretched creatures? Are you not surprised at all this commotion? How long do you think Khomeyni's trumpeteer will be able to blow on his trumpet? How mistaken are they about the Iranian people? What is the objective of these insane cowards who have (?donned the garb of Islam) and are shouting, "Oh Islam?" Can one actually accept that Khomeyni's army -- his army of injustice -- has achieved victory? Basically, what does victory mean?

In the very first days of the war, 20 months ago, and when the number of war victims was still very small, when Iran's destruction had not reached the degree it has today and poverty -- the poverty that has swept all of Iran today -- had not emerged yet, the Iraqi leadership announced that it did not convey its neighbor's territory and that its military action was to prevent the aggression by the newly emerged clerical regime. The Iraqi leadership announced that it believed in international political norms. It announced that it had no intention to destroy the two Muslim peoples of Iran and Iraq but rather that it tried to avoid this. However [words indistinct] shouted from the very first days: "War! War!" They shouted, "The export of the revolution!" and "The theocrat does not know limits and boundaries!" and many other similar things.

Iraq, by virtue of its national, political and military duty resisted the mullahs' attacks like a mountain of steel. For 20 months they spoke of war while Iraq spoke of peace to the world. Now, after 20 months and after the deaths of numerous people; the disintegration of many families; the creation of thousands of orphans, widows and mourners, the (?mullahs) have reached their international borders in some parts. All this trumpeting and commotion is not only unnecessary, but it is something that disgraces the mullahs.

The Iranian people have reached the conclusion that those who were killed at the front [words indistinct], that whoever was killed was killed and his body was eaten up by vultures. The Iranian people have reached the conclusion that these lives were lost in vain. Iraq has repeatedly said that the objective behind this confrontation is only to (?safeguard its domestic situation) from the irresponsible Revolution Guards and agents of Hajj Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Khomeyni and his (?associates) are now blowing the trumpet of victory. We ask: How valuable is this victory for the mother who has lost her son? This victory could have been achieved without a war. This notorious victory could have been possible without the shedding of one drop of blood. You have sent so many people to their deaths. You have driven so many families from their homes. You have destroyed Iran, and now you claim that (?you have achieved a victory)? What are the people saying? If you have a ounce of courage in you, you can open your ears and listen to what the people have to say [words indistinct]. It is then that you will realize truly how wretched you are and how detested you are among the people. You will be able to see how much [word indistinct] and vengeance is hiding in the four corners of Iran.

IRAN'S SHELLING OF CIVILIAN AREAS DENOUNCED

JN301855 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 30 May (INA) -- The INA political commentator has stressed that the Iraqis are just as capable of dealing more violent and harmful blows to the Iranian enemy as they were on the first day of the battle and will do so if the Iranian rulers insist on continuing their aggresssion against Iraq, interfering in its affairs and undermining the security and will of our people and nation.

The political commentator added: If the ruling mentality in Tehran is ignorant of the meaning of the Iraqi call for an end to the war and for the establishment of peace based on the recognition of Iraq's rights to its land and waters and the respect of international charters and the principles of justice, this trend can be enforced by destroying all forms of the Iranian tool of aggression and by crushing the war machine with which the criminal Khomeyni clique is making threats before it harms an inch of Iraq's or any other Arab country. Only the Iranian rulers will then be held responsible for shedding Iranian blood which is mercilessly being sent to the furnace of death and destruction.

The political commentator indicated that the bloody Khomeyni clique, which has always reaped disappointment, defeat and massive human losses, imagines that it is easy to penetrate Iraq's border and reach any place in Iraq. It also imagines that it is easy to achieve its dreams in dominating the Arab Gulf states and crushing their people.

He added: This bloodthirsty clique which has a sick mind, has quickly forgotten that the Iraqi forces, which have taught it the gravest lessons throughout 20 months of fierce fighting, can with a renewed spirit influence the course of the battle with the usual fighting zeal and with methods that can turn the Iranian warmachine into wreckage. Neither Israel's supplies and aid nor the spiteful and wicked forces' support for Iran will then benefit the Tehran rulers.

The commentator recalled Iraq's great ability to implement its warnings to the Iranian side and to quickly retaliate for its thoughtless shelling of quarters and towns with heavy artillery. He said: The Iranian enemy began the war on 4 September 1980 when it shelled the Iraqi border villages with artillery and various other weapons. Iraq then replied with the only method and manner that the Tehran rulers understand. The Iraqi deterrent ability will remain strong and firm as long as the ruling clique in Iran persists in its erroneous course and behaves with the logic of interference and criminal aggression.

The prompt Iraqi reply to the Iranian enemy's shelling of Iraqi cities today is an expression of the firm meaning of Iraqi insistence on confronting the Iranian aggression but with the logic of dealing two blows for each blow. This is an option imposed on us by the historical responsibility toward our people and nation as well as by our resopnsibility to adhere to our sovereignty and independent will, no matter how great the sacrifices.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 1-DAY VISIT

JN311640 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Amman at noon today on a 1-day visit to Jordan during which he will deliver a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with the latest developments in the region.

The Saudi foreign minister stated that his visit to Jordan comes within the context of the constant contacts and consultations between the two fraternal countries, particularly under the current circumstances.

On the GCC countries' stand on the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Saudi foreign minister said that through its meetings and contacts with the Arab countries, the GCC seeks to reach a unified Arab stand as such a stand will be the best course for reaching a solution to this issue that will end the fighting and safeguard the two countries' interests.

On the recent visit by Claude Cheysson to Saudi Arabia, the Saudi foreign minister expressed the belief that the visit sought to reiterate France's stand on the Middle East issue -- a stand which views the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights as being the basis of French policy toward the Middle East. He added that the French and European stands which were contained in the Venice statement were declarations of stands and nothing more. He stressed that Europe must go beyond the stage of merely declaring stands to that of adopting practical measures that can be implemented to serve just and lasting peace in the region.

The Saudi foreign minister was welcomed at the airport by Acting Foreign Minister Hasan Ibrahim and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Amman.

Received by Husayn

JN311820 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a message from His Majesty Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with the current Arab stand and recent developments. The message was conveyed to his majesty by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal during an audience at the royal court this afternoon.

Prince Sa'ud briefed his majesty the king on the results of the GCC foreign ministers meeting which ended in Riyadh today.

His Majesty King Husayn underlined the importance of ending the Iraqi-Iranian war by preserving the national rights of fraternal Iraq.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mudarr Badran; and Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jrrdanian Armed Forces.

TIMES LOOKS AT HAIG'S SPEECH ON MIDEAST POLICY

JN290929 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 May 82 p 4

[Editorial: "A Message Among the Mumbo-Jumbo?"]

[Text] United States Secretary of State Alexander Haig's speech on American policy in the Middle East earlier this week before the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations needs to be studied carefully. Mr Haig may be trying to tell us something. Perhaps, even, he is trying to put together an American policy for the Middle East, something that has not existed since America itself became a nation about 200 years ago.

For Mr. Haig to say that the U.S. must "coordinate our approaches" to Lebanon, the Palestinians and the Iraq-Iran war -- the three matters he chose to stress in his talk -- is a heartening sign of growing up. Hereto-fore, America has preferred the crisis management approach to Middle East diplomacy, an approach that has gotten nowhere and that has run its course, as he more or less confirmed when he said that "...conflict cannot be managed perpetually while the problems at the root of the conflict continue to fester."

Mr. Haig is obviously groping for something when he talks of the "principle of self-government" for the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians and when he stresses that the Camp David "autonomy" proposal is transitional, not final. But self-government is not the same as self-determination, and Mr. Haig's gropings for a coherent and balanced Middle Eastern policy are still badly hampered by his Israeli shackles preventing him from talking with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Nevertheless, what Mr. Haig said in Chicago can be viewed as the first attempt by a chained man to break out of his chains. The bottom line of American diplomacy in the Middle East, as outlined in Mr. Haig's speech, remains one that is defined clearly by Israeli concerns, as well as by the right-wing mumbo-jumbo of the dominant Republican Party and its anti-Soviet hysteria. Mr. Haig is to be encouraged in his attempt to relate indigenous Middle Eastern events and forces to one another, as he has suggested he now wishes to do. He is also to be encouraged to adopt a policy in which, as he said in his speech, "...no country can be given a veto over the pursuit of our best interests or necessary cooperation with others."

This is intriguing stuff, indeed. What is Alexander Haig trying to say? Hasn't he said some of this before only to contradict it with his country's actions on the ground? Is it different this time? Why should we believe America this time? Actions speak louder than words. Let us see what action follows the words.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN RETURNS FROM U.S. VISIT

JN271840 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn welcomed Crown Prince Hasan upon his return to Amman tonight following a working visit to the United States which lasted 2 weeks.

His highness was also welcomed by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, several ranking officials and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman. Court Minister 'Amir Khammash returned with his highness.

His Highness Prince Hasan met with U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy yesterday morning in Washington and informed him of the current situation in the Middle East in general and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR HAVANA 29 MAY

JN291236 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 May 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim left Amman today for Havana to attend the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau which will be held on 31 May in the Cuban capital. After visiting Havana, Al-Qasim will attend the second special UN General Assembly session on disarmament.

SENATE PRESIDENT AT-TALHUNI LEAVES FOR ROMANIA

JN311252 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni has left Amman for Bucharest, heading a parliamentary delegation on a week-long visit to Romania at the invitation of the Romanian Government.

In a statement to JNA, At-Talhuni said this visit takes place within the context of the good relations between the two friendly countries founded by His Majesty King Husayn and President Nicolae Ceausescu in all fields. He added: We will not forget Romania's continuous stands in all conferences and forums in support of our just issues, especially the Middle East question. Romania has reiterated through its leaders the need for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory, especially Jerusalem, and granting the Palestinians their right to return to their homeland and to determine their own destiny on their national soil.

AD-DUSTUR URGES ALGERIA TO END GULF WAR

JN310914 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 31 May 82 pp 1, 23

[Hakim article: "Algeria and the Gulf War" in the column "A Thought"]

[Text] The Gulf war is now at a crossroads, facing one of two options: cessation or expansion.

Iran's threat to enter Iraqi territory will not, if it is carried out, be a picnic for the Iranians. There are regional and international forces which, despite their different calculations, will prevent that.

The Gulf states, whose foreign ministers will resume their meetings in Riyadh today, are trying to avoid the difficult option of expanding the war and opening the door to the world powers, especially the United States, which would pose as a savior. Therefore, the Gulf states are concentrating on the question of concerting the efforts of those states whose voices are heard in Iran and who can persuade Tehran to accept a cease-fire.

But Tehran speaks a language which is not understood by the people of this world. Its actions are governed by different ideological considerations and it is seeking a role which ignores all logic. Furthermore, Tehran has found people within the Arab ranks who are encouraging it to continue the war, although the result of such a course is already obvious to it and to them, namely the conversion of the Arab Gulf into an American lake.

Hopes have been, and still are, pinned on the Algerian role in particular. Algeria has no complex of hatred or fear toward the Iraqi regime as Syria has, for instance. Algeria also has excellent relations with the Tehran government. Perhaps its duty toward the Arab-Islamic future is greater than that of those who would not mind seeing Basra become a ruined city just to spite Iraq.

Perhaps Algeria feels it has a debt to pay to the Arab east at this critical juncture in the history of the Arab nation. By this, we mean the debt of Arab support for the Algerian revolution against the French.

Perhaps, due to its remoteness from the hotbed of problems in our east, Algeria is in a better position to see things more clearly, unaffected by the mist of hatred which seems to mar the view of some people.

The clear equation now is that the continuation of the war means the internationalization of the war, and this is not in the interest of Iraq, Iran or the entire Arab region.

Since we cannot ask Syria, Aden or Libya to play a role in achieving peace in the Gulf for obvious reasons, we do not hesitate to ask President Bendjedid to take the initiative to play such a role and to insist on it until a cease-fire is achieved.

Perhaps the recent visit of Sa'ud al-Faysal to Algeria and the visit of the Algerian foreign minister to Saudi Arabia could serve as a reassurance for the Gulf states and all the Arabs that Algeria is indeed willing to assume its responsibilities in stopping this war, whose continuation would mean more fragmentation of the Arab world and opening the door to destructive sectarian wars, catastrophes and disturbances which might not end in a 100 years.

NEW CABINET PREDICTED; ARTILLERY SENT TO IRAQ

GF311338 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 31 May 82 p 1

[Yusuf ash-Shihab dispatch from Amman]

[Text] It is reported in Amman that King Husayn of Jordan is thinking about replacing the Badran Cabinet with a new government that can confront the new situation following developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war, the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, what has been reported on Egyptian-Arab rapprochement, threats by some Arab countries against Jordan and secret plotting against the Jordanian-Iraqi alliance. Well-informed sources in Amman note that Lt Gen Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, is the most likely candidate to form the new Cabinet which will include young people who have never held ministerial portfolios in addition to some current ministers.

Meanwhile AL-QABAS has learned that Jordan recently provided Iraq with sophisticated 155-mm artillery batteries which can strike deep inside Iranian territory from Iraq.

VARIOUS FACTIONS REACT TO HAIG'S REMARKS

Phalangist: 'Significant'

NC311306 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil presided over a meeting of the Phalangist Political Bureau this morning. The recent developments on the security and political levels and the dimensions of the external moves on the Lebanese question were discussed at the meeting.

The Political Bureau also heard a report by Deputy Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil on the U.S. secretary of state's statement on the Lebanese question. The report indicated that Lebanon is waiting for practical steps to rescue it and that the U.S. secretary's statement is significant at a time when the election of a new Lebanese president is approaching. The report commended the French premier's visit to Lebanon and his bold statements on the need for rescuing it, statements that are consistent with the stand of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Al-Wazzan Welcomes Interest

NC281345 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Commenting on General Haig's speech, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We absolutely do not consider as strange this interest in our issues and the Lebanese crisis. On the contrary, it is our right to consider as strange the delay in serious pursuance of our crisis because what is taking place in the area is linked completely with the Israeli presence, actions, aggression, ambitions and flouting of UN resolutions — all of which have affected our land and the entire area.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: We call on the United States -- the country that is strategically allied with Israel and its supporter in all spheres -- and on the international community to be interested in this painful reality we are experiencing with a view to solving the crisis in the south.

Moreover, we call on our Arab brothers to rise up to the concepts of fraternity and Arab duty by undertaking everything to help Lebanon to deliver itself from all its fumbling, in particular because despite all that has taken place, and is taking place, Lebanon is still wagering on an Arab solution on the basis of Arab fraternity. In all this we believe we are in a fateful phase in which we are facing, together with our Syrian and Palestinian brothers, the most dangerous phase which requires from us the strongest and broadest coordination with our Syrian and Palestinian brothers.

Further Al-Wazzan Remarks

NC291604 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Answering a question today on the latest U.S. and French proposals, which were made following the visit to Lebanon by French Premier Pierre Mauroy, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said: First, I want to clarify the French moves which emerged during Pierre Mauroy's visit. The French move is limited to the framework that Mauroy declared during his visit. It does not assume a wider framework than what is taking place in Lebanon. As for the U.S. moves, they are not new. You know that since the first visits by U.S. envoy Philip Habib, the U.S. Government has made a series of endeavors regarding the security situation on the borders. During Draper's latest visit, there were discussions about the cease-fire. We have recently heard a statement by the U.S. secretary of state, who pointed to a possible visit by Philip Habib, who actually seems to be coming to the area.

Al-Wazzan further said: Moves are being made regarding these issues. We are always ready to participate in any efforts that will help save our situation and implement the UN resolutions on the south, particularly resolution 425. As for our internal crisis, we are in pressing need of taking care of ourselves, beginning with our feeling of our duty as Lebanese, that is, to proceed on the path toward national accord and prepare ourselves for the forthcoming duty of electing a new president of the republic in a way that will ensure a constitutional transfer in the best possible way.

Press Comments

NC281134 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 May 82

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Commenting on [U.S. Secretary of State] General Haig's statement, the newspaper AN-NAHAR says: What are the Lebanese to tell General Haig now that he has talked about Lebanon in a tone bordering on lamentation? Are they to say that the American general has forgotten an important point, namely, the U.S. responsibility for the situation in which Lebanon finds itself? Or are they to ask about the secret of the sudden awakening and whether it really is an awakening? In any case, the Lebanese are wondering if it was necessary for Lebanon to suffer all it has to deserve this American gesture.

AN-NAHAR adds: The Lebanese are not the only ones who are responsible for what has happened and is happening in Lebanon. Gen Alexander Haig's sentiments will not make the Lebanese forget that Lebanon has paid an exorbitant price for the two Camp David agreements, and their preludes.

AL-ANWAR discusses the same subject. It says General Haig talks about Lebanon and the area in a new language, but that he is still far away from charting a new American policy. This is the first time that the U.S. secretary of state has talked in a language that is almost Lebanese. This is the first time that the United States has discovered Lebanon and revealed its own mistakes and those of others in Lebanon. This is the first time that Washington has recognized the fact that the State of Lebanon is exposed to danger -- a danger which the United States continued to tolerate until it became a danger to the area and the world.

AL-BAYRAQ emphasizes that the United States may have realized recently that it was necessary to confront developments since Lebanon now appeared to be the weaker link and was threatened more than anyone else and, therefore, must be strengthened and supported. Perhaps this is what General Haig wanted to express when he spoke about a strong central Lebanese Government supported by the United States.

The newspaper AN-NIDA devotes headlines to this subject. It asserts that Washington's concentration on Lebanon calls for unification of confrontation because Reagan's and Haig's statements reflect the U.S. decision to (?legitimize) direct intervention to confront the developments in the Gulf war and the uprising in the occupied West Bank.

AL-'AMAL says that Haig's speech has defined U.S. policy lines in the area and emphasizes that Washington believes the Lebanese crisis is an independent issue and solving it will prevent an explosion in the Middle East.

Independent Deputies: 'Positive'

NC292218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] The independent deputies group held one of its periodic meetings Saturday. It welcomed the idea that President Sarkis should go to the United Nations. The group also reviewed the dimensions of the French premier's visit to Beirut. In addition, it regarded the contents of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's statement as a positive element in the declared official stand.

AL-AS'AD WANTS USSR INCLUDED IN SOLUTION

NC311840 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] The contents of U.S. Secretary of State Haig's speech were the theme of a discussion held today at a meeting of the Independent Parliamentary Grouping.

The grouping unanimously decided that the speech cannot be considered a new trend adopted to contribute to a solution of the Lebanese crisis, unless it is coupled with a clear-cut stand that can be translated into action on the ground and that, consequently, can reflect positively on the Lebanese crisis. The reason is that U.S. officials under various administrations and individuals since the election of President Sarkis have been incessantly declaring their support for Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial unity, but these statements have in no way been linked to any practical stand. On the contrary, there has been a policy of watching the crisis and of watching Israel implement its liquidation scheme, internally and on the border, if not a policy of backing Israel.

Speaker al-As'ad said: The grouping believes that a sound stand epitomizing the will announced by the U.S. secretary of state can emanate from the hammering out of a formula based on implementation of the resolutions passed by the Security Council on the south.

Such a formula would end the Israeli devastation and the illicit state of affairs reigning supreme in the south. This is particularly true since the resolutions passed on UNIFIL -- in their present ineffective form which perpetuates the Israeli aggression -- were made by the United States and have carried its mark from the beginning. It is possible to call for an end to the Middle East crisis and for a sound and peaceful solution while using as a premise for this call the United Nations or any other international forum that includes the Soviet Union. This is because any solution that does not stem from a mutual agreement between the two camps cannot succeed.

Concerning the requisite Lebanese stand that should be conveyed to U.S. envoy Philip Habib, Speaker al-As'ad said: One would assume that this demand, which expresses the legitimate national concern over Lebanon's fate, should be used in the contacts presently being held by the state to obtain reassurances, not just in the form of words and viewpoints, but in the form of guarantees given by the world powers capable of harnessing Israel, and the United States is in the forefront of these powers.

INFORMATION MINISTER DEPARTS FOR SOVIET UNION

NC311824 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Information Minister Michel Iddih left Beirut at 1700 today en route to Moscow at the official invitation of the Soviet minister of state for television and radio affairs.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM STOPS IN BEIRUT EN ROUTE TO UK

NC281830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam stopped over at Beirut Airport at 1100 today. Minister Khaddam was en route from Damascus to London. The Syrian minister refused to make a statement. Security at the airport was stringent throughout the stopover, which lasted about 1 and 1/2 hours.

SPEAKER AL-AS'AD RECEIVES SYRIAN COUNTERPART

NC282140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] At 1700 today, His Excellency Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad held a meeting in Shtawrah with Speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly Mahmud az-Zu'bi. During the 3-hour meeting a review was made of developments in the general situation in Lebanon and in the area as well as of relations between the two countries.

Az-Zu'bi arrived at the Lebanese-Syrian border at 1630. He was met by Secretary General of the Chamber of Deputies Ihsan Abu Khalil, Director General of the Chamber's Presidency 'Abd al-Amir Sadiq and member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Socialist Party Ahmad Za'rur. Az-Zu'bi left Shtawrah for Damascus at 2000.

AMAL, OPPONENTS CLASH IN BEIRUT 28 MAY

NC281804 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 May 82

[Excerpts] At 1730 [1530 GMT] today, clashes occurred in Khandaq al-Ghamiq and Al-Bastah between the Amal movement, on the one hand, and the pro-Iraqi Ba'thists and the communists, on the other. The clashes later extended to the 'A'ishah Bakkar area. News reports say the combatants used rocket projectiles [qadha'if sarukhiyah] and automatic weapons and [words indistinct] were hit. The roads leading to the areas of the clashes were immediately sealed off. The Syrian deterrent forces entered these areas at 1845.

It has also been reported from the south that at 1500 today the 635-strong convoy of the additional French forces moved from Beirut to Sidon. The commander of the French forces in Lebanon has said that UNIFIL held contacts with all the parties concerned to ensure the most propitious circumstances for the movement of the French force. He added: All the parties concerned have been very cooperative. From Sidon, the French force will head for the border area to deploy in the central sector, south of the Litani River.

Reports from Tripoli state that two persons were wounded during a clash in the Khan al-'Askar locality in the city's downtown markets.

Situation Aggravated 1 June

NC010956 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Four persons were killed and 16 others were wounded so far as a result of the clashes that broke out in western Beirut between members of the Amal movement and the communists, Ba'thists and Kurds. Those killed were members of the [pro-Iraqi] Liberation Front.

It is feared that the number of casualties is higher because sniper fire is preventing the removal of the wounded from the areas of the clashes.

Our correspondent says that the situation is aggravated, that the people are confined to their homes and sniper fire is directed at anything that moves. The sound of explosions is heard in the areas of the clashes and resounds in various parts of the capital. Shells fell in the Al-Musaytibah area and sniper fire cut off the road leading to the residence of former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam.

The deterrent forces have not so far entered the areas of tension to separate the warrying gunmen.

PALESTINIANS IN SOUTH ASKED TO BE CAUTIOUS, ALERT

NC311416 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] It appears that an atmosphere of tension returned to southern Lebanon today. Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan have made statements in which they agree on remedying Palestinian terrorism by dealing a fatal blow to the Palestinian military machine in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources have reported that a mine this morning exploded under an Israeli military vehicle in the Marj 'Uyun-Al-Khardali area. The Palestinian organizations have asked their positions in the south to be cautious and alert in case Israel should react.

SOURCE REFUTES IRAQI CLAIMS OF AIR VIOLATION

JN311652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] An official source has responded to the Iraqi statement claiming that a Syrian plane entered Iraqi airspace. The source stressed that this statement, like many previous Iraqi statements, contains lies and fabrications, which we hear from the Iraqi regime every time the Iraqi executioner suffers a military, moral or political defeat. The executioner of Iraq creates laughter when he tries to find a scapegoat to justify his military, moral and political defeats. However, he continues to tell lies. Naturally, no one believes his statements any longer.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RECEIVES USSR AMBASSADOR

JN311951 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi received Vladimir Yukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus, in his office today. Az-Zu'bi and the ambassador discussed bilateral relations, particularly in the parliamentary field and current Arab and international affairs. He underlined the importance of holding meetings and said exchanging expertise serves the joint interests of the two friendly countries and peoples. This is especially true in the present circumstances, which call for the cohesion of progressive powers and the unity of their potential in the face of the vicious imperialist onslaught against those people struggling for their liberation and development, particularly the Arab people, who are facing an imperialist-Zionist-reactionary challenge that is trying to impose imperialist hegemony on the Arab region. The ambassador expressed his satisfaction with the developing relations between the two friendly countries and peoples. He reiterated the USSR's firm support for the Arab people's just struggle. He also praised Syria's effective role on both the Arab and international levels under the wise and bold leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. The ambassador noted the importance of Syria's role in the Arab struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil.

AL-KASM RECEIVES DFLP'S HAWATIMAH 30 MAY

JN301440 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] At 1030 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], and DFLP Political Bureau members 'Isam 'Abd al-Latif and Salih Ra'fat. The two sides discussed the current events that are causing the tense situation in the region and are directly linked to the fixed objectives of the expansionist policy of the United States and Israel. The United States and Israel seek to achieve their objectives by encircling national forces and liquidating the Palestinian cause. The two sides also reviewed the disrupted Arab situation and the attempts to disperse Arab forces by working aginst the factors and elements of Arab solidarity, which is essential to confronting the real enemy as represented by Israel. These attempts aim at divesting the Arab nation of the will of steadfastness and at paving the way for the capitulatory trend.

The two sides underlined the close relationship between the Syrian Arab stand with its effective bases on the one hand and the Arab national forces and the Palestinian revolution on the other. They also stressed the need to strengthen the confrontation methods against the new plans of the United States, Israel and their agents and called for the mobilization of the Arab nation in this decisive confrontation.

DAMASCUS RADIO ANALYZES HAIG'S 26 MAY STATEMENT

JN301704 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Recent developments in the Middle East, which has always been a hotbed of tension and potential armed conflicts, indicate that the region is approaching its most crucial phase in recent years. This is proven by a series of statements and activities by U.S. policy planners, senior Israeli Government officials and several of the region's rulers who are involved in the U.S.-Zionist schemes.

The U.S.-Zionist moves were promted by recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war that were not taken into account by the United States and its followers, especially Saddam Husayn, who has played a criminal and bloody role in the interest of imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries and against the interests of Iraq and the Arab nation.

Alexander Haig's speech on Wednesday, 26 May, which he devoted to a so-called new diplomatic initiative aimed at bolstering peace and stability in the Middle East, clearly reveals some of the U.S. plans for the region and predicts the direction of the new moves in the region by the Washington government and its followers.

Haig's comments about the bases and aims of U.S. policy in the Middle East is not new. These bases and aims were known before and did not change under previous U.S. Presidents, both Democrats and Republicans. Haig summed up these bases and aims when he described Israel as a strategic ally and said the United States has been committed to its security and qualitative military superiority for a long time. Haig has brought nothing new with regard to the bases and aims of U.S. policy. The only new thing he said was that the United States, in cooperation with its allies, agents, followers and those involved in its plans, will actively pursue the old aims, which were foiled by Syria and the rest of the Arab forces that reject subservience and capitulation.

In announcing the general outlines of U.S. activity, Haig stressed U.S. insistence on unilaterally tackling the region's crisis as if the region were a U.S. state or satellite. He also stressed that the Camp David framework is the only one the United States wants to impose on the region and on any settlement in it.

A closer insight into Haig's remarks clearly demonstrates that the United States intends to place the Palestine question at a lower priority by reducing it to the so-called autonomy framework. At the same time, it intends to exaggerate the alleged Soviet threat and the threat of mounting internal opposition in those countries the United States considers friendly, thereby making these threats the region's top priorities. Haig left the observers in no doubt as to the need for a new list of priorities for the region. He divided Arab ranks and then called on the so-called moderate Arabs to join an alliance with Israel through the United States. Haig specifically said the United States has tried and will continue to try to establish practical arrangements with named Arab countries that seek to consolidate security. He also said the United States is working in cooperation with Israel, which is a strategic ally whose security and qualitative military superiority is a long-term U.S. commitment.

The Arabs previously rejected and are still firmly rejecting these U.S. ideas within the context of the unanimous Arab resolutions adopted by summit conferences. These ideas are rejected now and will be confronted with the same Arab resistance that confronted the Camp David accords and the capitulatory peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. The Palestine question will remain the Arab nation's central and fundamental issue. The Arab masses will have no mercy on any Arab hand that reaches out to form an alliance with Israel through the United States.

SHARON: U.S. HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ARMS SALES

TA291126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 29 May 82

[Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon interviewed in Washington by correspondent Shalom Qital — date not given — recorded]

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon is winding up a visit to the United States during which he made the following declarations: Israel supplied small amounts of equipment to Iran with the agreement and full knowledge of the United States; Israel has no plans for a preemptive attack against Lebanon, but a war is liable to break out because of a Palestinian action against Jews; a dangerous coalition is taking shape in the Middle East and consists of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt; Israel is not initiating a renewal of the memorandum of understanding with the United States; U.S. Jewry must join a vigorous struggle against the U.S. administration's intention to supply sophisticated arms to Jordan; and the settlement plan for Judaea and Samaria includes moving 70,000 Jews there in the course of 3 to 4 years so that number of settlers will reach 100,000. While in the United States, Sharon met with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, ranking senators from both parties and representatives of Jewish organizations.

At the end of Defense Minister Sharon's visit I spoke with him:

[Sharon] I certainly spoke to them about the matter of Iraq and Iran, and I warned them about the attempt to strengthen and support Jordan vis-a-vis Iran. From Israel's point of view, support for Iraq in its war against Iran is liable to imperil all of the Middle East and not only Israel. I explained that in our view Khomeyni's regime is worse than and just as murderous as the regime of Saddam Husayn. However, despite the residual feeling in the United States against Khomeyni's Iran -- which also of course exists in our country -- one must make a long-range assessment of the situation. For months now we have been explaining this matter to U.S. administration officials and have been reporting to them on the limited supply of equipment we sent to Iran -- small and limited. The shipments were made with U.S. knowledge and agreement, and not, as there are those who are intentionally trying to present us here and to the entire world, as large arms suppliers for Iran and Khomeyni's partners, as it were. There is no truth to these claims, and it was necessary to make this unequivocally clear here -- and this is what I did.

[Question] There have been reports of criticism by the U.S. administration about such a supply to Iran.

[Answer] We acted on this matter with the knowledge of the administration. We had contacts with the administration as early as several months ago and they continued throughout this same period. All in all this involves a very small and very limited amount of equipment that we supplied after a long-range and comprehensive view of regional strategy and the free world's interests in the Middle East.

[Question] There has been criticism in Israel, Mr Defense Minister, concerning your also having revealed this fact.

[Answer] There was no cause for criticism here. The matter was discussed by us with U.S. officials and it was even raised in our talks with the Egyptians. In the face of the attempt to tarnish Israel with the accusation that it is Iran's principal arms supplier it was important to come forward and say what Israel is in fact doing. It was not possible to ignore this matter, because otherwise we would not have been able to rid ourselves of this accusation. An attempt is being made to blacken Israel's name -- this may be part of a plan to put pressure on Israel in the future. We see this in the matter of Argentina: Here too an attempt is being made to charge us falsely -- despite our denials. Were I to ignore the matter, the version that has been circulated here would gain validity. Were I to issue a denial I would not be telling the truth.

[Question] Mr Defense Minister, following the talks you had here, how would you describe Israeli-U.S. relations? There is the problem of a weapons deal that is taking shape with Jordan; there are perhaps differences of opinion about what should happen in Lebanon; and you have mentioned here the matter of the Iran-Iraq war, about which I am not sure Israel and the United States see eye to eye. How would you characterize relations between the two countries?

[Answer] Relations between Israel and the United States are built on a similar view of the dangers in the region and on a deep, traditional friendship between the two peoples. At the same time, there are, of course, differences and sometimes profound ones concerning the solutions to the problems and dangers to peace that hover over the area. Therefore, regarding the United States' friendship, Israel has no cause for concern. However, Israel must continue to struggle to vindicate the justice of its position on the ways that must be used to deal with the dangers to peace in the region. One of the points on which we must exercise all our influence is the supply of modern and sophisticated weapons in large quantities to the Arab states and especially to Jordan.

[Question] Keeping in mind the experience with the AWACS, do you think it is possible to block this deal?

[Answer] I think there is a chance if we act in time and with firm resolve. I am glad that in this matter there is a consensus in Israel. Today, a campaign is being waged against this grave danger to Israel, which actually is not only a danger to Israel but also to peace in the region. Similarly, I stressed in my talks here the many dangers to peace that stem from terrorism -- the terrorism of the PLO. Here too persuasion efforts must continue. Along with this we must have a resolute decision to deal with terrorism since it harbors the main danger to peace. There are also differences of opinion, perhaps, on the matter of Iraq. I think a joint assessment of that situation should be made and indeed this will be done by the two countries. In this assessment the weight of all the dangers must be appraised and ways of resolving this problem must be considered.

[Question] Regarding the joint assessment of the situation, what is happening to the memorandum of understanding?

[Answer] The memorandum of understanding was not raised in this discussion. The memorandum of understanding was at the time entirely different from all previous agreements between an Israeli Government and the United States. When the prime minister came to Washington in September last year he did not come with a shopping list as had been the custom in the past. Instead, he came with a broad strategic concept designed to provide an answer to the dangers to the free world in a region that attracts our attention: the Middle East and Africa. The memorandum did not contribute to Israel more than Israel was ready to contribute to the United States. It was founded on mutual interest and, I would say, mutual contribution. Therefore, I did not find it urgent to raise this matter -- this matter is one of equal concern to the United States and Israel, and it is not Israel's business to ask that the matter of the memorandum be raised anew. [Word indistinct] the talks with the secretary of defense and especially with Secretary of State Haig concerning strategy and dangers in the Middle East were very comprehensive and serious.

[Question] You mention Secretary of State Haig. Yesterday he spoke about a new Habib mission -- this time not to put out a fire, but to discuss a comprehensive solution in Lebanon. Is there a comprehensive solution for Lebanon that Israel and the United States can agree upon?

[Answer] In our view, there is a possibility of achieving a solution in Lebanon: a very complicated and intricate solution. This is the reason the government is so careful in its dealing with this problem despite the grave danger of terror which unceasingly hovers over us. Because of the complicated nature of the problem and the various elements involved in this matter, the government is reconsidering all the possibilities and is first of all trying to resolve the problem in ways that will not imperil peace.

U.S. Leak Blamed

TA301636 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon returned to Israel this afternoon and at Ben-Gurion Airport he said the disclosures about the supply of arms to Iran were not ours. We reacted, because nobody could be permitted, under cover of the accusations leveled at Israel,to justify the supply of U.S. weapons to Arab countries in large quantities. Our correspondent Hayim Ravya reports from Ben-Gurion Airport.

[Ravya -- live] The defense minister said, less than an hour ago, on his return to Israel: The disclosures about the supply of arms did not come from us. The issue was discussed at the highest levels between the two countries and was kept secret for many months. That matter, so Sharon said, was apparently leaked by circles close to the U.S. administration.

[Begin Sharon recording] We found ourselves confronted with a problem here, matters had to be set straight and nobody, under any circumstances, could be permitted under, I would say, the cover of the accusations directed at Israel, to justify to himself -- to himself and to others -- a massive supply of weapons to Arab countries which appear to us today as one of the greatest dangers for Israel. [end recording]

[Ravya] Beyond these remarks, the defense minister said: I would not want to add anything. He opted not to reply to the question: Who in the U.S. administration is behind the leaks? Of course, he commented, I will report to the prime minister about this. Sharon also said that he did not know if a tripartite Reagan-Begin-Mubarak summit meeting was possible. He also commented that he did not know if the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation would be renewed during the prime minister's upcoming visit to the United States. He summed up his achievements on the visit like this:

[Begin Sharon recording] I think I succeeded in explaining, in the United States, Israel's clear position -- and there are, in my opinion, no doubts about this in the United States -- with regard to terrorism, the dangers inherent in Palestinian terrorism and Israel's unwillingness to accept this terrorism as a of its daily life. I think that, on the matter of the weapons' supply, I succeeded in -- the supply of sophisticated weapons to Arab countries, and mainly to Jordan -- I think that I succeeded in arousing broader support; of course, there was also support even before I went there, this activity did not begin with my visit, but I think that I succeeded in increasing the support and Israel's ability to stand firm in the difficult fight awaiting us in the near future. [end recording]

Begin Supports Sharon

TA300602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Israel insists that the United States had known about the indirect shipment of a small quantity of military equipment to Iran. The U.S. administration spokesmen have denied this fact. This matter may be raised in the weekly Cabinet meeting today, but our political correspondent believes the prime minister will want to discuss this only when the defense minister returns to Israel. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the dispute between Jerusalem and Washington on the issue of Israel arms supply to Iran.

[Begin Schiffer recording] The phenomenon is unprecedented -- a public argument between Israel and the United States on the supply of military equipment to Iran. In the past this subject was one of the most classified subjects and usually reports which disclosed a little of the events in this sphere were denied.

In the opinion of government sources in Israel, U.S. administration officials wanted -- by publicizing reports in the United States on the Israeli arms supply to Khomeyni's Iran and Argentina -- to present Israel as a partner to corrupt regimes and as a country that is not selective in the means it chooses and which helps U.S. enemies, and all this in order to prepare the ground for U.S. arms supplies to Jordan and Iraq.

As the prime minister's adviser on communications and foreign press, Uri Porat, says, the facts are that the United States had known of the shipment of arms to the United States [as heard]. The issue had been discussed in the past among the most senior Israeli-U.S. echelons. The shipment of arms was indirect and on a very limited scale. The attempt to present Israel as caught in the act and as committing an act of betrayal behind the United States' back is a most surprising thing, adviser Porat said. According to him Defense Minister Sharon presented facts as they are in the United States in order to give U.S. public opinion a true picture in the wake of intentional reports originating from the U.S. administration. The prime minister firmly backed this position.

It should be added that about 2 weeks ago, in talks he held in Jerusalem the U.S. ambassador to Israel asked that the arms shipments to Iran be stopped. The U.S. administration reveals a great deal of sensitivity on this matter. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger is not prepared to hear of compromises regarding Iran and wants any contact with the regime there stopped.

Israel and the United States do not see eye to eye on this matter. Jerusalem believes a door should be left open to Iran and all bridges should not be burned. Iran's victory in its war with Iraq -- one is told here -- may jeopardize the Arab countries called moderate but an Iraqi victory in the war will concretely endanger Israel alone. This will be the point to argue in the future as well when the question arising will be whether the Jerusalem policymakers have taken into consideration U.S. sensitivity and the possible future impact on the Israeli-U.S. dialogue on one of the most sensitive issues. [end recording]

SHARON REACTS TO STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

TA301016 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 May 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by Ilan Kfir and from the United States by Razi Gutterman and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpts] There is a clear trend in the United States today "to besmirch Israel and present it as a country that supplies arms to whoever requires them," Defense Minister Sharon told MA'ARIV yesterday, prior to leaving New York for Israel.

Sharon was asked to react to the U.S. State Department spokesman's announcement that the U.S. administration had been surprised by his remarks in a television interview on arms sales to Iran. Sharon said that certain U.S. circles are attempting to blow the supply of military equipment to Iran out of proportion in order to cover up for and justify the supply of sophisticated arms to Jordan and Iraq. "This is an attempt to weaken Israel's resistance and this is a very dangerous phenomenon," Sharon said.

The defense minister repeated that "there were consultations between Israel and the U.S. administration regarding the supply of Israeli military equipment to Iran. This matter it well known to the United States, and we had meetings and deliberations with them and discussed this issue."

The minister noted that in Israel's eyes Khomeyni's regime in Iran is as bad and murderous as Saddam Husayn's, but despite the fallout on this issue Israel found it necessary to examine the matter from a long-term strategic viewpoint and analyze the developments expected in the Middle East as well as the importance of each of these two countries -- Iran and Iraq -- to the free world. Iran, in Sharon's opinion, is more important. Arab support for Iraq may, according to Sharon's estimation, lead to Soviet penetration into Iran.

(In an interview with the WALL STREET JOURNAL Sharon said Israeli aid to Iran was small. "We helped them when they were fighting for their lives. Our help was symbolic," the minister said.)

On the struggle against U.S. arms sales to Jordan Sharon told MA'ARIV that despite the U.S. administration's firm support for this he believes there is a good chance to foil it. In contrast with the struggle conducted at the time against the supply of AWACS to Saudi Arabia, regarding which there was some vagueness as to the position that should be adopted, on the arms supply to Jordan the Israeli position is absolutely clear. The struggle over this issue has begun well ahead of time, while the United States has not yet committed itself to the deal. In addition, the Israeli position is acceptable among broad circles on Capital Hill and in the communications media.

Ilan Kfir, MA'ARIV's political correspondent reports:

At the end of the week Prime Minister Begin gave his full backing to Sharon for his disclosure in Washington that Israel supplied Iran with small quantities of military equipment. Mr Begin believes that the defense minister had to tell the truth in the interview on the NBC television network. Begin expressed his support for the defense minister's position in a telephone talk he had with him.

The prime minister, it has been learned, believes that the defense minister had to deviate in this case from Israel's policy not to release details on Israel's arms deals with foreign countries in order to curb an intentional, anti-Israeli campaign launched among the U.S. public. The prime minister's position is that Sharon did not do anything contrary to Israel's security interests.

SHARON TALKS WITH WEINBERGER DESCRIBED AS 'HARSH'

TA010623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- recorded]

[Text] Much publicity was given to Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's U.S. visit. Some of his remarks were criticized and the dispute between the two countries on several issues on the agenda was emphasized -- the Iran-Iraq war, the supply of U.S. arms to Jordan and Iraq, the degree of coordination necessary between Jerusalem and Washington, the problem of Arab terrorism and the future solution of the Lebanon conflict.

In Sharon's opinion, the positions were made clear during his visit. Israel will not agree to a continued existence in the shadow of the threat of terrorism in Lebanon; friendly countries cannot maintain normal relations when one adopts sanctions against the other; and arms supplies to Jordan and Iraq constitute a danger to peace and to Israel's security.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis yesterday asked for a meeting with the prime minister in order to correct the bad impression -- as authoritative sources put it -- given by Sharon's reports on his U.S. visit. The U.S. administration wanted to make it clear before the Cabinet meeting this morning that it is aware of Israel's economic and security needs and that these will be discussed in the prime minister's talks in Washington in the middle of this month.

Reports reaching Jerusalem indicate that Sharon's talk with his U.S. counterpart was conducted in a harsh [qashe] atmosphere. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger violated the President's instruction [hora'at] and adopted a firm approach toward his Israeli guest. U.S. sources say this was due to the guest's style. Weinberger did not rule out the possibility that the U.S. administration will adopt sanctions against Israel in the future, too, if it harms vital U.S. interests. Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Robert McFarlane told Israeli Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens that Weinberger had received different instructions from the White House in preparation for his talk with the defense minister.

In his talk with Secretary of State Haig, too, matters were presented in a categorical, clear-cut manner. The U.S. secretary of state warned against Israel becoming entangled in Lebanon, saying that the United States will determine its position toward Israel's antiterrorist actions according to the degree of provocation in the terrorist acts.

Political sources emphasized in Jerusalem yesterday that in his talks in the U.S. Senate the defense minister succeeded in clarifying and enhancing important senators' understanding of the Israeli stand.

In today's Cabinet meeting it is of course expected that reactions by other ministers to the defense minister's remarks on the sale of military equipment to Iran will be heard.

Further Details

TA010642 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Our correspondent has learned that Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Robert McFarlane expressed surprise that Secretary Weinberger had violated the President's instructions [on how to handle Defense Minister Sharon's visit]. The U.S. secretary of defense told the defense minister that the sanctions Sharon wanted canceled were imposed by President Reagan and it will be President Reagan who will decide when to lift them. According to Weinberger, not everything that seems to Israel to be a sanction is indeed a U.S. punishment.

MINISTER SHARON ON U.S. INTENT TO SELL JORDAN ARMS

TA312014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] This evening Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon again bitterly attacked the intention to send modern weapons to Jordan, saying that the incorporation of long-range Jordanian artillery under cover of modern antiaircraft missiles in the system confronting Israel is, from our viewpoint, a certain format for war. Sharon was speaking at a Congress of IDF disabled veterans in Tel Aviv. He said it was inconceivable that Jerusalem or our main air bases should be within range of antiaircraft missiels made in the United States or by any other source. The defense minister also said that many European or Arab attempts to provde united [melurad] help to the extremist regime in Iraq contained an inherent threat to peace in the area.

Speaking about PLO terrorist acts, Sharon said that during his visit to the United States, he had explained to his hosts that Israel would not accept an attempt to restrict its freedom of action on this matter. It would use its right to self-defense whenever it saw fit to do so.

CHIEF OF STAFF ON 'TERRORISTS,' IRAQI DEFEATS

TA301524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan has said that there is a military solution to the terrorist problem which would result in the terrorists disappearing altogether or being so weakened that they would no longer be able to disturb the northern settlements. Lieutenant General Eytan has said that dealing with the problem of the missiles in the al-Biqa' area of Lebanon is now in the hands of the politicians, but it should be recalled that dealing with the nuclear reactor in Iraq also began with the politicians. The chief of staff was speaking to students at a religious high school in Tiberias.

He also said that it was good that Iraq was now, as he phrased it, getting it [hotefet]. Thus the danger that it will become a confrontation country is being lessened. We owe nothing to the Iraqis and it is good that they should be down on their knees. The chief of staff's remarks have been reported by our correspondent Hayim Hecht.

Further Details

TA301953 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 May 82

[Excerpt] [Begin Hecht recording] Whoever says that the problem of the terrorists in Lebanon will not be solved in a military operation let him propose a solution for the problem, the chief of staff asked and then stated resolutely: Only by means of a military strike will we bring an end to the situation in which the terrorists are continuing to vex, as he put it, Israel. A smashing military blow will enable us afterward also to conduct negotiations on our terms. [end recording]

Rabin Criticizes

TA311428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] MK Yitzhaq Rabin has said it is impossible to solve the problem of the terrorists in Lebanon through a military action. Anyone who claims that this can be done, Yitzhaq Rabin said, is making a grave mistake and could involve Israel in a military campaign that would not obtain its objective. Yitzhaq Rabin made the remarks in a lecture to the agricultural faculty of Hebrew University, in Rehovot, and in so doing was reacting to the chief of staff's remarks yesterday in Tiberias, although he did not mention him by name. Mr Rabin added that no country in the world would agree to the IDF holding onto Lebanon for any length of time.

CHIEF OF STAFF EYTAN SAYS ARABS UNCOMPROMISING

TA301240 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 May 82 p 8

[Report from Jerusalem]

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan has recently claimed that "encouragement by international public opinion and Jews who make the Palestinians feel it is worth their while to oppose the IDF is the major element that exacerbates the situation in the West Bank." The chief of staff said this in a meeting with the staff of an officers' school in an answer to a question by an officer who expressed shock about IDF acts in the West Bank "about the deterioration in the IDF's moral image and the shortcomings in handling irregular cases."

The chief of staff sharply attacked the officer who asked the question saying that nothing substantive has changed in the West Bank, that the Palestinians do not want Nabulus and Hebron but the Yafo and Mishmar Ha'emeq lands and that they will never accept Israel's existence.

He further said that Zionism has always favored settlement everywhere and that this is the only way whereby the Arabs will understand our intentions. The content of the talk was transmitted by officers to Peace Now movement leaders who sent a telegram to the defense minister demanding that measures be adopted against political statements by the chief of staff. "It is unacceptable to allow the chief of staff to make us of the influence he wields with IDF officers in order to lecture on his political views," the Peace Now movement leaders said in their telegram.

The movement leaders announced they take a grave view of the chief of staff's attempt to absolve the government's responsibility for the serious deterioration in the West Bank which is aggravating the situation with its policy, and to attribute this responsibility to Israelis who fight for a different West Bank policy.

BELGIUM'S LEO TINDEMANS ARRIVES FOR TALKS

TA292035 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans, current president of the EC Council of Ministers, arrived in Israel on an official visit a short time ago. In Israel he will confer with the president and the prime minister and will hold two working meetings with the foreign minister. At the request of the Belgian minister, a meeting was arranged with Palestinian leaders in Judaea and Samaria. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir greeted the Belgian external affairs minister at Ben-Gurion Airport.

[Begin videotape] [Shamir] I am very happy to host a colleague, friend and a respected statesman who has made a significant contribution to building the European Community and to have the opportunity to exchange views on mutual issues in harmony and mutual understanding.

You are now making your first visit to Israel, in an era of peace between Israel and Egypt and after the evacuation of the Sinai which involved -- as you know -- great sacrifices on our part.

We are happy about the close and friendly dialogue with the European countries. We hope this dialogue also reflects the understanding that our problems cannot be solved from the outside but only through the pertinent parties directly, while taking into consideration Israel's position. I believe that our European friends today understand better our position that we will not agree to negotiations with the PLO or to self-determination for the Palestinians but that we will strive to advance the autonomy negotiations.

Our effort for peace is firm and we will continue to adhere to the path set out in the Camp David accords. We are confident that the dialogue we will hold in the next few days will further strengthen the good relations between our two countries and will strengthen the mutual understanding between Israel and the entire European Community.

I wish you and your entourage a pleasant and prosperous stay in our country. Welcome. Thank you.

[Tindemans -- in French] Mr Minister, I thank you very much for your welcoming remarks. I am very happy to be in the land of Israel, in the Middle East, which has seen so many civilizations, which has known so much suffering. It is a great pleasure for me to meet you, my dear colleague. I am convinced that I will hold friendly and interesting talks with you and with the other officials who will receive me.

As you know, I have come here, as you have said, as the external affairs minister of Belgium -- which goes without saying -- but also as president of the European Council of Ministers. I am carrying out a fact finding mission and assessment in various countries in the region. That means I will ask a lot of questions -- and I beg you to excuse me in advance -- and that I will listen very carefully to everything that will be said to me. The European Ten are trying to bring an impartial contribution to the search that might lead to a peaceful, equitable and durable solution to the Middle East problem. [end videotape]

Meets Navon

TA301024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans, who is the current president of the EC Council of Ministers, said that following his visit to the Middle East the EC may consolidate a new policy and may adopt a new initiative in the Middle East. Nevertheless, the Venice declaration is still binding on the 10 members of the EC. The Belgian external affairs minister talked with our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar after meeting with President Yitzhaq Navon. In their meeting the two talked about the latest developments in our region.

Tindemans said that his impression from a recent visit to several Arab countries is that they no longer want to push Israel into the sea. President Navon answered that to judge by the Arab leaders' declarations to their peoples it seems they have not yet abandoned this ideology. In Navon's opinion, if the EC had given stronger support for the Camp David process other Arab countries might have joined it.

Meets Shamir, Gaza Mayor

TA301910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] At the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem this afternoon the foreign ministers of Israel and Belgium met for the first working session. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh says that at the meeting only regional matters were discussed and that Foreign Minister Shamir repeated Israel's demand that Europe not interfere with the Camp David peace process.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Melekh] Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today asked for economic aid from his guest, Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans. However, Shamir did not request the aid for Israel, but rather for Egypt. Shamir explained: Europe must prove to Egypt and to the rest of the Arab states that support for the peace process does not come exclusively from the United States, but that Europe also supports it.

The two foreign ministers met at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem today for 90 minutes. They did not discuss international matters, not even Israeli-Belgian relations, but only regional problems. The Council external affairs minister is the president of the EC Council of Ministers and therefore Foreign Minister Shamir took the trouble to repeatedly express to him Israel's reservations about the Venice declaration, and Israel's fears that European meddling is liable to undermine the peace process.

On leaving the meeting, Tindemans said that the purpose of his visit to the Middle East is to learn the parties' positions and accordingly decide if there is a need for a European reassessment of the situation.

[Tindemans -- in English] The objective of my trips to Middle East countries is precisely to get new information which will permit us to make a new assessment, a new evaluation of the situation, because the last statement made by the European countries was that so-called declaration of Venice. If I am well-informed, one of the ministers of foreign affairs of the ten said that was already the past. I don't know if it is true. There is no new one. But we must study now the new situation, make a new evaluation, and then we must see at what time -- while we have to avoid a new war, we have to propose measures that inspire confidence and then we will see if we can launch new ideas, new initiatives.

[Ben-Melekh translates and continues] In the discussion between the two foreign ministers, Belgium asked Israel what in its view is the best way for Europe to take in order to advance peace. Shamir reiterated that the Camp David process must be strengthened and, following that, also the forces in the Arab world that support this process. The Belgian external affairs minister said that indeed he has the impression that now in the Arab world understanding is growing for the peace steps taken by Egypt. In the course of the talks autonomy was also discussed. However, despite the congenial atmosphere at the meeting, the Belgian minister left the Foreign Ministry for the Belgian Consulate in east Jerusalem to meet Arab leaders who do not accept autonomy and do not support the Camp David accords. [end recording]

At this time the Belgian external affairs minister is meeting figures from the territories. The first meeting was with Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

[Begin recording] [Gus] The words we used during the meeting about the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to an independent state have become cliches, said Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa, on leaving the meeting. Ash-Shawwa was the first of those invited to meet the Belgian external affairs minister. Also invited to meet him were Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, Anwar Nussaybah, a former Jordanian defense minister, and a member of the Nabulus Municipal Council, Dr (Khatim abu Ghazali). Absent from the meeting were the dismissed mayors Bassam ash-Shar'ah and Karim Khalaf. They took part in a previous meeting with French External Relations Minister Cheysson.

The meeting was initiated by the Belgian Consulate in east Jerusalem. The fact that the meetings are being held separately, said Rashad ash-Shawwa, does not mean there are differences of opinion between us. We all say and agree that the Palestinians have the right to self-determination and to a Palestinian state. Rashad ash-Shawwa presented the Palestinians' demands to his host.

[Ash-Shawwa -- in Arabic fading into Gus translation] I got the impression from the discussion that even if there are changes in the European position, changes in the Venice documents for example, the Europeans will remain convinced of our right, of the Palestinians' right, to self-determination and to an independent state.

Both the mayor of Gaza and the member of the Nabulus Minicipal Council, (Abu Ghazzali,) support a new European initiative on the condition of course that it support the Palestinian position. [end recording]

Shamir on PLO, Jerusalem

TA310631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir tonight asked European countries not to support the PLO, because this weakens the chances for a dialogue between Israel and its neighbors. At a formal dinner in honor of Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans, Shamir said the terrorist organizations' running rampant has turned the lives of Lebanese citizens into hell. The minister expressed amazement at the fact that there are those who preach transferring the causes of the tragedy of Lebanon onto Israel's territory, either by comparing or equalizing [hashva'at] the fates of Jerusalem and Beirut or by giving PLO gangs control of zones near Israeli population centers.

The foreign minister added that God should be praised that there is someone who prevents these absurd solutions from being accepted, and he again declared that Jerusalem will remain united.

Tindemans on Palestinian Rights

TA310705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Senior aides of Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans last night expressed optimism over the chances of finding a formula that will pridge the gap between the positions of Israel and the Palestinians. This optimism will be manifested in the report the Belgian minister will give to his colleagues in the EC and perhaps also in a new European declaration about the Middle East.

At a formal dinner held in Tindemans' honor by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the visiting minister said Belgium will act to prevent Israel's isolation even when it disagrees with one of Israel's steps. At the same time, he said the Palestinians' rights must be taken into consideration to achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Tindemans on EEC Assessment

TA310901 Jerusalem POST in English 31 May 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans yesterday clearly signalled a possible modification or abandonment by the EC of its June 1980 Venice declaration, in which the 10 European democracies endorsed the Palestinians' right to self-determination and called for PLO participation in the peace negotiations.

"My hope is to be able, at the end of this mission, to propose new ideas to my European colleagues, who told me that they attach great importance to my mission," said Tindemans, current president of the EC Council of Ministers, at the end of a festive dinner in Jerusalem last night.

Earlier, after his meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Tindemans told reporters that he has come to Israel to make "a new assessment" and to gather information about the Middle East situation - "after the numerous events and political changes of the last two years" -- on behalf of the EC.

"When I said that we (the EC) must make a new assessment, it could signify that we must develop a new policy," said the foreign minister, who repeatedly stressed that he had come to Israel as a representative of "the 10."

"There is not yet a new European policy" towards the Middle East, said Tindemans, answering a question about whether the Venice position has already been superseded or discarded. "I will put my report (based on my talks in the Middle East) on the table and they (the EC ministers) will (then) decide to develop a new policy or not to modify" or change the existing one.

Tindemans said that he hopes on the basis of his report the EEC will see its way "to proposing measures which will inspire confidence" among the parties to the conflict and will "help avoid a new war."

At the festive dinner, given by Shamir in honour of Tindemans, the latter reiterated his country's continued adherence to the 1947 and 1949 UN resolutions' designation of Jerusalem as an "international zone."

"It is very impressive for a Christian to be in this beautiful Jerusalem, as it must be for a Jew or a Muslim. As you know, we do not share your views on the status of this city -- our guidance is the UN resolution of 1949," the visiting minister said.

But Tindemans leavened this statement with strong pro-Israeli pronouncements, of a nature likely to warm the heart of Prime Minister Menahem Begin, whom he is to meet this morning.

"Never shall we give our support to any proposal which would endanger the future of Israel," said the Belgian. "We know what it means for your people to feel alone and insecure; we will always bear in mind the images of the Jewish boy with his hands up in the Warsaw ghetto; or the little girl who found no one but her diary to share her fears," said Tindemans.

"Neither shall we ever take part in any project which would aim to isolate Israel from the international community, even when we disagree with you on some action you undertake," he said.

However, Tindemans added that "if the security of Israel is a basic principle for us, we consider equally the future of the Palestinian people as a central issue..."

In the copy of the speech released to journalists, Tindemans followed this with a passage -- omitted during his actual address at the dinner -- as follows: "The Europeans are convinced that there can be no durable solution without the Palestinians being involved in the definition and implementation of a peaceful solution." (The text was released to journalists without omission or comment, indicating the Belgians' wish that it be published.)

At the 90-minute meeting with Shamir, which Tindemans subsequently described as "excellent, frank and friendly," and in which "no subject was avoided," the Belgian said that Europe is looking for ways to help advance the peace process and would like to have Isarel's ideas on the subject.

Shamir stressed that the problems of the Middle East must be solved by the parties in the region without outside interference. Shamir then repeated that the best service Europe could render would be public and unequivocal endorsement of the Camp David process and an offer of financial assistance in joint development projects with Egypt. Both moves would demonstrate to other Arab countries that peace is the only worthwhile policy which can benefit the Arabs.

Tindemans said that there is now in Europe a better understanding of the Camp David process and said that on the basis of his recent trips to Arab capitals, there is a growing acceptance of Egypt in the Arab world.

During the afternoon, Tindemans was hosted for lunch at the Knesset by Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor, who urged the Belgians and other Western European states to move their embassies to Jerusalem.

Tendemans asked his host whether a halt could be made in the establishment of Jewish settlements in the administered areas. Savidor responded that this is "unthinkable," as no area of the land of Isarel should be closed to Jewish settlement.

At the festive dinner last night given by Shamir in honour of his guest, Shamir noted the shared background of Belgium and Israel.

Shamir clearly attacked the Venice declaration by stating: "All support for the PLO, in deeds or in implicit or explicit statements, weakens the chance of dialogue between us and our Arab neighbours. Calls to include the terrorist organizations in negotiations...make the desired peace grow more remote."

Earlier, Tindemans met President Yitzhaq Navon. Today he will meet with Prime Minister Menahem Begin before holding a second session with Shamir.

Meets Begin, Shamir

TA311303 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has firmly rejected a proposal by Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans to establish an international force to supervise the autonomy. Begin told Tindemans that UNIFIL has failed to preserve Israel's security in southern Lebanon and that it is inconceivable that there be a similar situation also on Israel's border with Jordan.

The Belgian minister also met with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and reached agreement with him on the setting up of a joint trade and technology committee. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh notes that Israel established similar committees with Italy and France during the visits of their foreign ministers to Jerusalem.

Shamir sought the assistance of Belgium and the EC to help prevent difficulties for Israel as a result of Spain's joing the EEC. The foreign minister said Spain is the only Common Market member without ties with Israel.

Comments on Autonomy

TA311751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 31 May 82

[From the "Evening Newsreel"]

[Text] Today at a news conference in Jerusalem, Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans expressed cautious support for the autonomy program for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh has said that the remarks by the Belgian minister were, to a certain extent, a deviation from the reserved policy of the EC countries.

[Ben-Melekh] The autonomy talks are most important for the building of an atmosphere of trust in this area. This is what the Belgian external affairs minister declared in Jerusalem today and his words at once aroused a great amount of interest and excitement. To date the European foreign ministers have refrained from expressing any support whatsoever for the autonomy program, but today the Belgian external affairs minister who is also the president of the EC Council of Ministers, was ready to take the risk of saying a few words of sympathy and support on this matter.

[Begin Tindemans recording -- in English] The negotiations about autonomy; first of all, it is probably the most important confidence-building measures that could be taken in this area, but if it could be, in a creative spirit, be amplified into the dynamics of peace, I think it could become an excellent thing. [end recording]

[Ben-Melekh -- translates above and continues] However, he added, cautiously and in diplomatic language: The matter must be developed so that it will be possible to include it in the peacemaking process. If Tindemans really meant support for the autonomy process in accordance with what is written in the Camp David agreements, then it will be possible to speak about new melodies in Europe's policy. However, it may be that all that the visitor meant was that changes should be made in the autnomy program so that it can also be accepted by the Arabs. Later on, the Belgian external affairs minister pointed out that, in his view, all his colleagues in Europe would agree to contribute toward the advancing of these dynamics for peace through the autonomy talks. The Belgian minister also commented on the situation in Lebanon, saying that order must be brought back to it, as well as sovereignty. On this matter, he added: Europe can contribute a great deal. However, as I said, the most important topic in his remarks was, today, the cautious support for autonomy. He repeated it at the news conference several times, although he did not explain exactly what he meant.

Shamir Criticizes Tindemans

TA312012 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Today Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sharply attacked remarks made last night by Belgian External Affairs Minister Leo Tindemans about Jerusalem. The Belgian minister had said that his country recognized the 1949 UN resolution, calling for a [word indistinct] of Jerusalem. In his talk with Tindemans, Shamir said today that there was no hesitation about the place of Jerusalem, the capital of Israel. The two ministers decided to deepen relations between Israel and Belgium and establish a joint committee to foster economic, industrial, scientific and technological relations between the two countries. This afternoon the Belgian external affairs minister held a news conference to conclude his visit and our correspondent Menashe Raz reports from there:

[Begin videotape] [Raz] One of the main issues referred to by Tindemans at the news conference was the tension on Israel's northern border.

[Tindemans -- in English] We must avoid, at any price, at any cost, that a new war should break out in that area and the tension is very great in and around Lebanon, you know that it's a very serious case and it is extremely urgent to do something in order to, shall I say, in order to cool down the existing fever.

[Raz] Since his arrival in Israel, Tindemans has been speaking about a change in European policy toward the area. The European countries are confused by the success of the Camp David agreements on the one hand, and the Israel's rejection of the Venice declaration. Reality has changed and a new formulation should be adopted, the Belgian external affairs minister said, a formulation that will show a warmer attitude toward the Camp David agreements and the autonomy talks.

[Unidentified correspondent -- in English] Mr Minister, as far as you are concerned, do you think that autonomy leads to a Palestinian country?

[Tindemans -- in English] If I am well informed, I think not in the wording of the Camp David agreements, but the definition of whawt it shall be, according to the agreements, is not yet given, for the moment. Negotiations are still necessary about that issue and you know there are different interpretations for the moment, so that's the reason why I say, if that is done in a positive, constructive spirit, if it could be amplified -- I will not use another word, because if I say transformed, you would immediately think that I am, that I am leaving what I just said -- that's the reason why I say: amplified, in the same spirit. It could be the beginning of the dynamics, the beginning, it could be a very important element to start with, to launch the dynamics of a vast peace operation in the Middle East. [end videotape]

Departs 1 June

TA010759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] The Belgian external affairs minister left Israel for Brussels this morning, with Foreign Minister Shamir bidding him farewell at Ben-Gurion Airport. Foreign Ministry officials describe the visit as successful, saying that the impression is that the guest and other European foreign ministers who have recently visited Israel understand Israel's positions better. The Belgian external affairs minister will report on his visit to the EC Council of Ministers, which may formulate a new declaration [to replace the Venice declaration].

LABOR PARTY, EGYPTIAN NDP DELEGATION HOLD TALKS

TA301054 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1020 GMT 30 May '82

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 30 May -- Dr Mustafa Khalil, former Egyptian prime minister, and Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, said today that Egypt does not intend to send soldiers to fight alongside Iraq on the Iranian front.

The two arrived at the head of a high-level delegation of the ruling Egyptian National Democratic Party [NDP] for a 3-day visit to Israel as the guests of the Labor Party. The delegation also includes the chairman of the Egyptian parliament's Foreign Relations Committee, Mr Muhammad 'Abdallah, and the party's deputy secretary, Mr Muhammad ash-Shadhli.

In answer to journalists' questions, Dr Khalil said his party supports a policy of promoting peace in the entire region and desires to restore peace between Iran and Iraq.

"We can play an important role in achieving this goal but have no intention of sending forces there. We are not warmongers but have acted on behalf of peace since As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem." Dr Butrus Ghali added that Egypt has no intention of sending its soldiers outside its borders.

"We did not reject Iraq's request for help but will help in the search for a peaceful solution. Our contribution will be for peace and not by interventing in a war."

In answer to another question Dr Khalil said that Egypt does not feel it has scored a diplomatic victory because the Moroccan foreign minister is beginning a visit in Cairo today.

"It is in the common interest of Egypt and the Arab countries to renew and maintain relations. Our doors will always be open but without preconditions. After signing the Camp David accords we will not agree to any intervention by the Arab countries in our relations with Israel. We will continue to implement the peace treaty and do not believe that our relations with Israel should affect our relations with the other Arab countries," the guest said.

At the airport the delegation was received by MK Abba Eban, MK Hayim Bar-Lev, the Labor Party's secretary general, and Mr Asher Ben-Natan.

Mr Bar-Lev emphasized that the visit reciprocates the visits by Labor Party leaders to Egypt and forms another link in the contacts that have developed between the two parties in the past 2 years.

"This is in fact the continuation of the dialogue between the parties and the third meeting between us," he said.

Mr Bar-Lev stressed that the Labor Party will not hold any political negotiations with the guests but will express its views on events in the region.

The delegation members will visit Jerusalem where they will be received by President Yitzhaq Navon and meet Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. They will also tour kibbutzim, hold talks with Labor Party leaders and meet the heads of Tel Aviv University's Shilo'ah Institute.

The guests also stressed this is a partisan delegation and they are not carrying any message from President Mubarak. When pressed about the significance of their going to Jerusalem while President Mubarak abstains from coming to it, Dr Khalil said they follow the plan prepared for them by the Labor Party and if this plan includes a meeting with the president of the state and the foreign minister in Jerusalem they will be in Jerusalem.

GHALI SAYS EGYPT 'NOT BOYCOTTING' JERUSALEM

TA301927 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said Egypt is not boycotting Jerusalem. He noted that an Egyptian delegation will meet tomorrow with President Navon at his residence in the capital. Ghali was speaking at a meeting held by the delegation from the Egyptian ruling party that came to Israel as a guest of the Israeli Labor Party. He explained that the Egyptians are not willing to hold the autonomy talks in Jerusalem and that in this matter agreement was achieved between the countries as early as the period of President as-Sadat. The change in Israel's policy in this matter is surprising, the minister said.

Former Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil said in the meeting that the Egyptians want peace and are even struggling to broaden it. Shim'on Peres told our correspondent Asher Schwartz that the visit of the delegation from the Egyptian ruling party to Israel demonstrates that the peace process is continuing and that it is even gaining strength after the withdrawal.

Burg Disagrees

TA302024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 May 82

[From the "Evening Newsreel"]

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs, Minister Yosef Burg, thinks the Egyptians are in fact undermining Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and are boycotting it. This is how Burg today interpreted the visit to Jerusalem of Mustafa Khalil and Butrus Ghali, who arrived today as the guests of the Labor Party, while Egypt continues to oppose conducting the autonomy negotiations in Jerusalem. The NRP leader spoke this evening at a meeting of his party's leadership which discussed the upcoming party elections.

REAGAN MAY CALL SUMMIT TO BREAK AUTONOMY DEADLOCK

TA290537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] An administration source in Washington has said that President Reagan is considering summoning the leaders of Israel and Egypt to Washington to try to break the deadlock on the autonomy talks. The source said the administration has not given up hope that the talks will be resumed without the intervention of the U.S. President. But, the source added, if the President needs to he will call Prime Minister Begin and President Mubarak to Washington in the summer.

Sources Express Doubt

TA300705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] A U.S. delegation will arrive in Jerusalem and Cairo this week to discuss the possibility of resuming the autonomy talks, at least on the level of work teams. Political sources in Jerusalem do not believe that a summit will indeed be convened in the middle of next month with the participation of Husni Mubarak, Menahem Begin and Ronald Reagan. The idea was raised by the U.S. representative to the autonomy talks, Richard Fairbanks.

U.S. ENVOY HABIB TO RETURN TO REGION NEXT WEEK

TA010632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib will return to the Middle East in a week's time. Our political correspondent has learned that this time he will bring with him new proposals for resolving the conflict in southern Lebanon and will no longer settle for the parties' promises to maintain the cease-fire. The proposal involves a gradual withdrawal of the forces of all parties involved in the conflict. This concerns the Syrian and terrorist forces as well as changing the special status of the Haddad-controlled zone and handing over supervision of the zone to the Lebanese Army.

BANK OF ISRAEL REPORTS NEGATIVE EMIGRATION BALANCE

TA311620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] For the first time since the establishment of the state, last year a negative emigration balance was noted and the population in Israel dropped by 11,000 people. The Bank of Israel economists state in their annual report that last year 26,000 people emigrated from Israel and 15,000 people immigrated. This number of immigrants is the smallest since 1953.

ECOWAS SUMMIT OPENS IN COTONOU 28 MAY

Kerekou Appointed Chairman

AB282028 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 28 May 82

[Excerpts] The fifth ECOWAS summit conference opened in Cotonou this morning. Present were 12 heads of state, 2 heads of government, 2 ministers, delegates and officials and numerous guests and observers. The opening ceremony, which took place in the conference hall decorated with the flags of members and posters of heads of state, began at 1130 when heads of state and government entered the conference hall and the brass band played the Beninese national anthem.

After the opening speeches, the heads of state elected a new chairman for the conference. As is the tradition, host President Mathieu Kerekou was appointed chairman of ECOWAS on the proposal of Guinean head of state Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Kerekou Opening Address

AB290631 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 28 May 82

[Beninese President Kerekou's address at the opening session of the ECOWAS summit in Cotonou on 28 May 1982 -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Your Excellencies, Messrs heads of state and government, Messrs heads of delegation, Messrs Ministers, Mr Executive Secretary of ECOWAS, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen, comrade militants of the Beninese revolution. For us it is a great joy, a great privilege and a pleasant duty to wish you on behalf of all militant Beninese people, their vanguard party, the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, the National Executive Council and on my own behalf a warm and brotherly welcome to our country, the People's Republic of Benin, to our dear brothers and colleagues, eminent heads of state and government of the West African subregion on the occasion of the official opening session of the fifth ordinary ECOWAS summit.

Your Excellencies, Messrs heads of state and government. Here we are assembled again to assess our progress since we established the foundation of a viable and dynamic grouping based on the noble ideals of unity, solidarity and cooperation with a view to ensuring in our respective countries a form of self-directed and self-promoted development. Henceforth, during our deliberations, we will have to rigorously assess the progress which we have been able to achieve since the Freetown summit a year ago. This will enable us to envisage -- with an acute sense of responsibility -- the prospects for a glorious future for our community.

As a matter of fact, when we signed the treaty establishing ECOWAS on 29 May 1975 in Lagos, we could already measure the significance, importance and scope of the historic act we had just initiated aimed at rapidly freeing our people from underdevelopment, hunger and poverty. This would be achieved by ensuring better living conditions for them, in spite of the selfishness and intransigence displayed by the developed countries and despite the various constraints imposed on our states by the hostile and unjust international economic environment.

In the fact of all the problems with which our countries are cruelly confronted and which include galloping inflation, increasing deterioration of the terms of exchange and worsening poverty of the masses of our urban and rural dwellers -- all of these being adverse factors that cause a disquietening decline in productivity and a growing dependence of our states on developed nations -- we must leave no stone unturned to mobilize, organize and streamline all our initiatives, resources and creative genius in order to make ECOWAS a truly efficient and operational tool for the balanced development of the West African subregion.

To this end, we will courageously assess through bold and appropriate decisions from our deliberations our common political will to successfully overcome, in spite of all opposition, all the obstacles with which we will assuredly be confronted during the process of integration of our national economies. This is why we must now more than ever before be fully aware of and collectively responsible for the life and survival of ECOWAS, for we are working in the supreme interest of our peoples and our states.

Your Excellencies, Messrs heads of state and government, distinguished guests, on behalf of our people and their democratic and popular revolution, we want to reiterate our sincere thanks to you and tell you to feel at home in Cotonou, in the People's Republic of Benin. Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues!

Nigeria's Shagari Address

AB282200 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] President Shagari has urged member nations of ECOWAS to give priority to development and maintenance of roads that link the member countries.

The president was addressing the fifth summit conference of the community which opened in Cotonou, Benin Republic, today. He observed that collective reliance would be a dream if the community could not transport products from one country to another. President Shagari suggested that the ECOWAS Secretariat and the fund should emphasize on trade liberalization policy, the development of telecommunications, agriculture and projects that will enhance rapid cooperation within the community. On the free movement of persons, the president stated that the member nations should take definite action of the issue without further delay. President Shagari also suggested that the council of ministers should draw up standing rules and procedures governing the operation of the funds as well as a voting system for operating funds. He stated that Nigeria believed firmly in the ideals of ECOWAS and had owned a (?sizeable) burden to ensure its success. The president commended President Mathieu Kerekou of the Republic of Benin who has been elected the new chairman of ECOWAS.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent, Andy Anaradu, reports that the summit is continuing a closed door session and will be rounded up tomorrow with a communique.

Kerekou Closing Speech

AB310718 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 2010 GMT 29 May 82

[Speech by Beninese President Mathieu Kerekou to the closing speech of the fifth ordinary summit of ECOWAS heads of state in Cotonou on 29 March 1982 -- live]

[Excerpts] Excellencies, heads of state and government, heads of delegations, Ministers, Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa, Executive Secretaries of ECOWAS, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, honorable guests, ladies, gentlemen and comrade militants of the Beninese revolution: The world is in crisis; yes, the world is in crisis. In fact, everybody is aware of the fact that the deliberations of the fifth ordinary session of the summit meeting of the heads of state and government of ECOWAS members was held within the context of a particularly difficult international situation, not only due to the numerous areas of serious tension and armed conflicts here and there in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, America and in the south Atlantic, but especially because today, perils of all types such as drought, hunger, misery, inflation, unemployment and the unrestrained arms race have come to add in a lasting manner to this imminently explosive situation, endangering international peace and security.

This is to say that in spite of all the efforts being made for the restoration of and the happy outcome of the North-South dialogue aimed at restoring a more fair and a more humane new world economic order, we cannot but help admit today that the world has entered into a period of deep crisis [passage indistinct].

To achieve these noble and humanitarian objectives, all heads of state and government, all international organizations and institutions, as well as all democratic forces and those of social progress should firmly support all initiatives aimed at continuing negotiations for global disarmament and for the establishment of a more equitable economic order in the world. In this connection, (?it is necessary that) all the peoples of Africa, and especially all the peoples of the West African subregion, should constantly be made aware of (?the dangers hanging over) the whole of humanity. They should also be resolutely engaged in the fight for the production of material wealth and services both in quality and quantity in order to be able to provide their basic needs for themselves.

In fact, for the past 10 years our total per capita revenue fell lamentably while at the same time the structural dependence of our national economies on those of the industrialized countries grew at an alarming rate with negative effects. This structural dependence is characterized by the flow of the primary resources of the developing countries toward the developed countries and the flow of manufactured goods from the developed countries to the Third World countries.

The monetary influx [words indistinct], as you might be aware has an adverse effect on the economies of our respective countries; that is the continued deterioration of the terms of exchange and the gap in the balance of payments due to external borrowing which finally, inevitably leads to the appreciable deterioration of the balance of payments which in turn is due to the strengthening of political and economic dependence which at times reach an unbelievable level.

Excellencies, honorable heads of state and government, honorable invited guests, it is the persistence of this [word indistinct] situation that we clearly perceived and which prompted the holding in Lagos from 28-29 April 1980 of the first OAU extraordinary summit devoted to economic problems. During this summit, a plan of action for the integrated and harmonious development of our continent was adopted, and it is this that we refer to as the Lagos plan.

Certainly, the OAU as a whole constitutes a true economic entity, but from north to south and from east to west our basic unity is and will remain a common strategy which must lead us to collective self-sufficiency in all spheres as soon as possible.

Excellencies, heads of state and government, honorable guests: The reality of our world today is immensely complex. That is why in order to act concretely in the way of progress and history, we need a plan in order to better understand and come to grips with this reality in all its aspects.

In fact, the permanent issue of international detente, the repeated embargoes on foodstuffs and on technology, the arguments for the rejection of some types of development, the arbitrary increase in prices, hunger, misery, the arms race and armed conflicts are the characteristics of our era where politics and economics are closely connected [passage indistinct].

The establishment of an international economic policy which takes into consideration fair and appropriate remuneration for raw materials of Third World countries and the price of manufactured goods from the industrialized countries be reduced thanks to the reduction in military expenditure which runs annually to nearly $500 billion. At any rate, today's world is really interdependent, and all the heads of state and government of the Third World have the urgent duty to help the people to achieve global disarmament to save humanity as a whole from a new world war with incalculable consequences.

Excellencies, heads of state and government, when we signed the ECOWAS treaty in Lagos on 29 May 1975, we accepted a historic challenge for a better collective future through the union, solidarity and cooperation of the peoples of the states of our subregion. But since then, our enemies, the enemies of the African peoples have never stopped asking themselves ironically, "What is the use of an economic community of poor countries?" As if they were ignorant of the real capacity and the human economic and sociocultural potentialities of each of the countries forming ECOWAS. It is undeniable that West Africa, our subregion, is very rich; rich through the value of its genius, rich with its available and fertile soil, rich in its mineral wealth, and rich in its immense energy potential. Assuredly, the bringing together of its numerous and diversified resources is a promise of a brilliant future, but achieving this is a difficult task.

In 1966 in Niamey, the 14 independent West African states decided to find the ways and means of creating subregional cooperation. The Monrovia summit in 1968 was also not able to help realize the desired result. However, 7 years later ECOWAS was born. The establishment was difficult, because it needed ambition, a long period of work and different concepts of development. But thanks to the political desire, to the tenacity and to the foresight of the West African heads of state who were fortunately encouraged and supported by the people the miracle was finally accomplished. In fact, the most extensive economic community -- in terms of regional grouping -- on the African Continent was born on 29 May 1975 in Lagos, under the name ECOWAS.

Excellencies, heads of state and government: The fundamental problem that we have to solve now is no longer that of making major decisions. In fact, thanks to the dynamism of and the readiness of our executive secretary and his team, to whom we must be very grateful, we now possess sufficient judiciary and technical (?machinery) which, henceforth, can enable us to operate deligently and effectively. However, it is worth drawing your attention to the need to carry out one of our very first duties, which is to do all in our power to strengthen and to safeguard at all costs our common political desire and the spirit of solidarity and cooperation common to us all within ECOWAS and to implement in a concrete manner all the decisions already made during our (?previous) conferences.

Also, we found it indispensable during our deliberations here in Cotonou to reaffirm this unflinching political desire to build together a community of more than 140 million people (?in line with) our declarations, resolutions and decisions. The acts of national sovereignty that each one of our governments is expected to take clearly demonstrate our solemn commitment.

Excellencies, heads of state and government: After 2 days of useful discussions we have come to the end of the deliberations of the fifth ordinary summit of ECOWAS. I am convinced that during our deliberations we were able to evaluate our achievements and realizations for the past 7 years and have also reaffirmed our faith and common political desire, complementarity, solidarity and cooperation among the states of our subregion. As a matter of fact, we have also been able to appreciate objectively the efforts that we have already accomplished and we will be able to correct our insufficiencies quickly so that ECOWAS can become a true and privileged instrument for an integrated and balanced development of the economies of our respective countries.

Final Communique

AB301213 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 2010 GMT 29 May 82

[Final communique issued in Cotonou on 29 May at the end of the fifth ECOWAS summit -- read by ECOWAS Executive Secretary Diaby-Ouatara]

[Text] The conference of heads of state and government of ECOWAS held its fifth annual ordinary session in Cotonou, People's Republic of Benin, 28-29 May 1982. The heads of state and government or their representatives who participated in the meeting are as follows: His Excellency Col Mathieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin; His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic of Ivory Coast; His Excellency Flight Lt Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council of the Republic of Ghana; His Excellency Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea; His Excellency Col Saye Zerbo, chairman of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress and head of state of upper Volta; His Excellency Samuel Kanyon Doe, chairman of the People's Redemption Council and head of state of the Republic of Liberia; His Excellency Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger; His Excellency Alhaji Shehu Shagari, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal; His Excellency Dr Siaka Stevens, president of the Republic of Sierra Leone; His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic of Togo; His Excellency Brig Gen Pedro Pires, prime minister of the Republic of Cape Verde; His Excellency Victor Saude Maria, vice president of the Council of the Revolution and prime minister of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau; His Excellency Dr Muhamadu Mane, minister of economic planning and industrial development of the Republic of Gambia; His Excellency Drissa Keita, minister of finance and commerce of the Republic of Mali.

The representatives of the following organizations attended the meeting as observers: the Central Bank of West African States, FAO, (?MOREHOB) [blue men resistance movement], the Mano River Union, Club of Africa, Central Fund for Economic Cooperation, African Development Bank, (?CRESSEN) (?GABONESE PRESS AGENCY), Organization of African Trade Union Unity, the BIE, the OAU and the West African Economic Community.

In his opening speech, Col Mathieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin, welcomed his colleagues and wished them success in their deliberations. He also hoped to see members fulfill their obligations more diligently and stressed the urgent need for members to resolutely commit themselves to the implementation of the community's objectives.

Outgoing chairman of the conference, His Excellency Dr Siaka Stevens, president of the Republic of Sierra Leone, gave a report on the activities of the community for the past year. He was happy to note that the community made great progress during the past year, especially by adopting an acceptable definition of community citizenship, a definition which will facilitate the free movement of peoples, the right of residence and (?settlement). The outgoing chairman also expressed the hope that the results so far obtained would move members to further double their efforts to achieve the set objectives of the community as soon as possible. On behalf of the community he congratulated the executive secretary and his associates for the efficiency with which they performed their duties during the past year.

Election of the bureau: His Excellency President Mathieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin, was unanimously elected chairman of the conference of heads of state and governments for the year 1982-83.

In his address to the conference, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, recommended among other things that the community should adopt as its objective for the next 5 years self-sufficiency in food production. Considering the agricultural potential of the subregion, he indicated his conviction that the community can attain this objective provided the political will exists [words indistinct].

The conference heard the reports of the executive secretary and that of the Council of Ministers and made the following decisions:

Decisions of the conference: A decision concerning the creation of a fund for the development of energy resources within ECOWAS; a decision concerning the proclamation of 1983-93 decade as a tree-planting decade; a decision of energy policy within ECOWAS; a decision concerning the adoption of a regional agricultural development strategy for ECOWAS; a decision concerning the production of basic selected seeds and the choice of production areas; a decision concerning solidarity among members during international negotiations on agricultural raw materials; a decision concerning the modification of Paragraph 1 of Article 27 of the ECOWAS treaty.

On the suspension of Article 20 of the provisions of the ECOWAS treaty concerning the (?contributions) of the richest nation, the conference decided that a special ministerial committee should meet to reexamine closely the question. Proposals of that committee will be submitted to the ministerial council session which will meet in November.

Other decisions made were: a decision concerning the implementation of the protocol on the free movement of people and a program of information about this protocol to the public; a decision about the granting of ECOWAS scholarships to the student exchange program and the creation of an ad hoc committee of certificate equivalence with in ECOWAS; a decision concerning a cultural exchange program; a decision concerning the organization of athletic activities within ECOWAS; a decision concerning an ECOWAS prize; a decision on the building of a headquarters for the institutions of the community -- the conference decided that the community should take charge of the financing of the construction of the headquarters of all its institutions. The building of the headquarters should start immediately.

Convention protocol: protocol concerning the community's citizenship code; protocol concerning the creation of an ECOWAS brown card for third-party insurance policy for private cars, convention on the interstate transit of goods by road; convention on mutual administrative assistance on customs and excise; convention on regulation of interstate road transportation within ECOWAS.

Also a decision was made concerning a stockbreeding center for the production of selected breeds of bovines.

Date and place for the sixth ordinary session of the conference: The conference decided to hold its sixth ordinary session on 28-29 May 1983 in Conakry.

Issued in Cotonou on 29 May 1983

LIBYA

AL-'UBAYDI WELCOMES FRANCE'S CHEYSSON 31 MAY

LD311936 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1720 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 31 May (JANA) -- French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson arrived in Tripoli this afternoon. He was welcomed on arrival by the secretary of the people's committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi.

Cheysson is accompanied by a number of ministry officials.

In a statement to JANA, Cheysson said: We hope to have very normal relations with the jamahiriyah, relations between two independent countries that value their independence. The French minister expressed pleasure at his visit, stressing his country's readiness to promote the existing cooperative relations between the two countries and to work for new prospects for these relations.

Meeting Held

LD312346 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] The secretary of the people's committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau met with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson last night. They discussed bilateral relations, including the development of cooperation, and examined a number of issues of common interest.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH IRELAND 31 MAY

LD010734 Tripoli JANA in English 1800 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 31 May (JANA) -- The jamahiriyah and Ireland today initialled an economic, social and cultural agreement at the end of the Irish agriculture minister's visit to the jamahiriyah. The agreement was initialled for Libya by the general people's committee secretary of education and for the Irish side by the agriculture minister. The agreement calls for the development of bilateral cooperation in various fields.

SUDAN

MANEUVERS WITH EGYPT SET FOR 'NEXT FEW DAYS'

JN311440 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Khartoum, 31 May (SUNA) -- The Sudanese People's Armed Forces and the Egyptian Armed Forces will carry out training operations in the next few days within the framework of the joint defense treaty between the two countries.

SUNA REPORTS LIBYAN PLAN TO 'INTERFERE' IN CHAD

JN311816 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Khartoum, 31 May (SUNA) -- Sources close to the Chadian Government said Libya asked Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei during his visit to Libya on 23 May, in the company of his defense minister, to make an official request and then Libya would bomb the positions of Hissein Habre's forces and interfere in Chad once again with forces that would be transported to the areas under control of the government forces.

The sources added that Libya has informed Chad of its readiness to carry out this plot. However, Libya fears unfavorable reaction from African countries and the international community. Libya also told Chad it would make statements about a plot against the Chadian people as a prelude to this operation. Libya actually has embarked on talking about the need to rescue the Chadian people from the alleged destruction and annihilation.

The sources added that contacts are still going to one between Libya and Chad on this matter and that Goukouni Oueddei's visit to Libya came 5 days after the visit paid to Ndjamena by Radwan Salah Radwan, former commander of the Libyan forces in Chad.

PRESIDENT PRESIDES OVER SSU MEETING 29 MAY

JN301220 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Khartoum, 30 May (SUNA) -- President Numayri yesterday evening presided over the fifth preparatory SSU Central Committee meeting. The president briefed the committee on developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and efforts by the Arab and Islamic countries to establish peace and security in the region.

Badr ad-Din Sulayman, preparatory Central Committee first secretary general, reviewed the directives included in President Numayri's speech on the 13th anniversary of the May revolution. He pointed out the guidelines on domestic affairs, that can be summed up in national unity and democracy to achieve regional rule and socialism removed from class struggle.

TUNISIA

FRANCE'S CHEYSSON ARRIVES FOR 2-DAY VISIT

LD302330 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson arrived in Tunisia on Sunday evening for 2-day official visit within the framework of his tour of a number of Arab capitals, starting in Riyadh.

Upon arrival, he said the aim of his visit is to acquaint President Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government with the results of President Mitterrand's Africa tour. He said he had previously visited Tunisia last July.

Minister Cheysson said contacts are continuing between the two countries' officials with a view of bolstering cooperation. In this context, he said France's participation in the Tunisian-Qatari Bank is now certain in view of France's great interest in this financial institution.

On the construction of another television station in Tunisia, he said everything is progressing well and that the two sides today will sign the agreement on the contruction of the station.

Meets With Bourguiba

LD311344 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 May 82

[Summary from poor reception] President Habib Bourguiba today received French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson. The French minister expressed pleasure at meeting the president. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister es-Sebsi, National Defense Minister Baly and the two countries' ambassadors.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mzali had talks in his office with the French minister in the presence of Foreign Minister es-Sebsi and the two ambassadors.

ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA, TRIPOLI, ADEN SIGN MEDIA COOPERATION

NC290821 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 29 May (AFP) -- Information ministers of Libya, Ethiopia and South Yemen ended a two-day meeting here yesterday with the signing of an agreement on mass media cooperation and coordination.

A communique on the talks said the three countries, linked in a tripartite treaty of friendship and cooperation, would "exert efforts to dismantle the imperialist information monopoly". They would also contribute to the establishment of a new international information order whilst strengthening their ties with the socialist community of nations, it said.

No details were given as to how this was to be achieved but it was believed the agreement was in essence a reiteration of principles. Strategies and methods were to be worked out at a future third meeting by the ministers, sources said.

EPLF SPOKESMAN VIEWS ERITREAN CAMPAIGN

EA282216 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 0930 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] A spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] announced in Paris, France, on Monday that the recent campaign by the allied forces to crush the EPLF has failed totally. The spokesman added that the Abyssinian black colonial force backed by allied forces from the Warsaw Pact countries and their surrogates from Libya, Aden and Cuba, have suffered major losses in men and materiel.

The Abyssian black colonial forces have lost 16,000 men killed and 22,000 wounded since they launched what they called the red star campaign in the strategic areas of Eritrea still controlled by the gallant EPLF forces, the spokesman said. He added that the EPLF has also captured very large quantities of assorted arms and ammunition. The EPLF spokesman added that the Abyssinian rulers lack the honesty and will to admit the losses in men and materiel which they have suffered at the hands of the EPLF.

The EPLF spokesman added that at the start of the so-called red star campaign, the Abyssinian black colonial regime and its masters were boasting that the Eritrean secessionists' days were numbered. Six months ago there were military parades and speeches by the terrorist gang leaders of the Abyssinian regime in Asmara and other major towns in Eritrea, but now they hide their faces and movements because of the humiliation of the great reverses they have suffered at the hands of the gallant EPLF forces, the EPLF spokesman said.

SOMALIA

SOMALI, ERITREAN FRONT LEADERS HOLD MEETING

EA282202 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 0930 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Muhammad Diriye (Urdoh), secretary general of the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF], and Ramadan Nur, secretary general of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF), recently held several meetings at which they discussed matters pertaining to relations and cooperation.

Mr (Urdoh) and Mr Nur also delivered reports on their countries and the major reverses the black Abyssinian colonial forces have suffered in their recent campaigns in Eritrea. They also discussed how to cooperate in rooting out the common enemy from their countries, especially in the political, military and information fields.

The WSLF and EPLF forces are fighting the black colonial forces of Abyssinia backed by the Warsaw Pact forces and their lackeys from Libya, Aden and Cuba.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT -- The Somali Democratic Republic and the Republic of Egypt this afternoon signed an agreement at People's Hall in Mogadishu concerning economy, technology, livestock, agriculture and fisheries. Challe Brig Gen Ahmed Suleiman Abdulle, minister of national planning, signed the agreement on behalf of the Somali Democratic Republic Government and 'Abd al-Hadi Muhammad Samahah, minister of irrigation and minister of state for Sudan affairs, signed for the Egyptian Government. [Excerpt] [Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1600 GMT 29 May 82 EA]

UGANDA

GUIDELINES ISSUED ON 'MOPPING UP BANDITS'

EA261656 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] The president and commander in chief of the Uganda Armed Forces, Dr Apollo Milton Obote, has issued new guidelines to all member of the armed forces who are carrying out mopping-up operations against the remnants of bandits. The president gave the new guidelines after receiving reports from Vice President and Minister of Defense Mr Paulo Muwanga about the security situation in the country.

A statement issued by the president in Kampala today said the Cabinet is very happy with the performance of officers and men in repulsing the bandits and rendering them impotent. Remnants of bandits, however, the statement said, remain and the mopping-up operations have been given to the military commander under the leadership of the commander of defense forces, Maj Gen Tito Okello.

The president is confident that as long as officers and soldiers remain loyal to Uganda and to the government and exemplify the characteristics of their profession, namely, discipline, courage and perseverance, they will succeed in carrying out mopping-up operations.

However, this kind of operation, he added, demands an additional quality of an officer and a soldier, namely, the winning of the minds and support of the civil population to see that the population supports the government and security forces. [passage indistinct]

Once the minds and the support of the civil population is on our side, Dr Obote declared we shall get first-class reports of the presence of the bandits in any locality and our work in eliminating any unity of bandits will be easy. It follows, therefore, to mention that officers and men whenever they go into operations in any area, should never molest or harass the population or loot their property or commit other crimes.

The president stressed that the mounting of roadblocks cannot be openly stated and officers must from time to time be directed to mount roadblocks so that any innocent citizen coming to such roadblocks will not be unduly inconvenienced or even harmed.

Every person arrested in suspicion of being the bandit or an accomplice of the bandit, or whatever reason whatsoever, it concluded, should be humanely treated and subjected to normal process of the law.

DEFENSE CHIEF ANNOUNCES 50 SOLDIERS ARRESTED

AB291222 Paris AFP in French 1021 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Kampala, 29 May (AFP) -- Fifty soldiers were arrested in Kampala today following their dismissal from the army for poor conduct and lack of discipline, Gen David Oyite Ojok, chief of defense staff, said during a press conference. Also today, five others were arrested in Mbale, in the eastern sector of the country, and will appear in court on Monday, he added.

During the same press conference, Paulo Muwanga, vice president and defense minister, appealed to the people of Kampala and the troubled districts of Luwero and Mpigi to gather in six houses to increase security and to combat guerrilla warfare. "We have the military solution in reserve and would prefer a political solution to the security problems."

The arrest of the soldiers follows an appeal made on Wednesday by President Milton Obote to the soldiers calling for an end to the violence and the victimization of the civilian population during operations against the guerrilla fighters.

OBOTE APPEALS FOR UNITY, INCREASED PRODUCTION

EA291956 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] President Milton Obote has explained the government's policy of reconciliation. He told a mammoth rally in Mbarara today that this policy covers the period between 1971, when the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] government was overthrown, and 1980, when the party was reelected to lead the country. He emphasized that the policy of reconciliation does not mean forgiving murderers. By reconciliation, he declared, the UPC means turning the back to death of the 1970's hatred, corruption and magendo [black-marketeering]. It also means turning to the road of unity, freedom and progress.

In an open speech punctuated by applause from thousands of cheering people, the president appealed to all Ugandans to guard and [word indistinct] the freedom which returned to the country with sacrifice of blood to serve the people. We must show, he declared, that there is a difference between the period of torture and this period of freedom. He further appealed to the people of Uganda to make sure that the security prevailing in the country continues. He extended a hand of friendship to all Ugandans, and especially the members of the Democratic Party, to come forward and join the task of rebuilding a prosperous and united country.

The president again condemned bandits whose mission, he said, is nothing but to kill. He particularly called on the people of Luwero to rise against bandits. He commended the people of Mbarara and other parts of Uganda for not supporting the bandits. He said the problems the country is facing now arise from the fact that for 10 years the country had no leaders of ideas. He pointed out that with leaders of ideas the government is now making efforts to improve the conditions of living of the people. But he made it clear that the government is not going to do everything for the people.

He said all the government is doing is to provide facilities to the people to rehabilitate their farms and industries.

He again appealed to the people of Uganda to increase production in all sectors of the economy. He reassured farmers that the government is going to set up realistic prices for their products. He said Uganda needs a united effort to transform the abundant resources of the country into wealth.

Earlier, the president thanked the people of Mbarara for the gift of cows which he said he is going to give to widows in the whole of Uganda.

CAMEROON

AHIDJO TO BOYCOTT TRIPOLI SUMMIT OVER SDAR

AB311636 Paris AFP in French 1558 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Yaounde, 31 May (AFP) -- Cameroonian head of state Ahmadou Ahidjo has declared his country will not be represented at the upcoming OAU summit scheduled to take place in Tripoli in August if the "crisis" within the pan-African organization over the SDAR issue is not resolved.

President Ahidjo, who appeared in the radio program "The Club of the Third World Press" broadcast on "Radio France International" on Saturday and carried by the national daily CAMEROON TRIBUNE, described as illegal the admission of an SDAR delegation to last February's OAU council of minister's meeting in Addis Ababa.

Without opposing the self-determination of the Saharan people, Ahidjo emphasized they had not yet officially achieved "self-determination" and as a result are not a "sovereign and independent state."

"If, as we hope, a solution is found to that serious problem, we will attend the Tripoli summit conference," Ahidjo explained. "If there is no solution, we will not attend the meeting. This has nothing to do with our feeling toward the Libyan Government. It is a matter of principle," the Cameroonian president concluded.

CHAD

FAN TAKES MASSAGUET; ZAIRIAN TROOPS REQUESTED

AB311827 Paris AFP in French 1744 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Yaounde, 31 May (AFP) -- Massaguet, about 80 km north of Ndjamena, reportedly has gone over to the side of Hissein Habre's FAN in fighting during the last 48 hours, it was learned from reliable sources in Yaounde on Monday evening.

Only about 10 km from Massaguet (3,000 inhabitants), Ndjamena authorities have set up the first defense "curtain" for Ndjamena, composed of government units, the same sources confirm.

Moreover, the command staff of the Zairian contingent of the OAU neutral force based in Ndjamena has requested the immediate dispatch of a new battalion of about 500 men from Zairian head of state Mobutu Sese Seko. These military reinforcements will have the special task of protecting the airport in the Chadian capital, the same sources report from Yaounde.

GOVERNMENT SETS UP 'DEFENSIVE MILITARY CURTAINS'

AB311309 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 31 May 82

[By Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Ndjamena, 31 May (AFP) -- Government troops have taken up positions inside an arc 70 km (about 45 miles) to the north and east of Ndjamena to prevent the forces of Chad's rebel leader Hissein Habre from reaching the capital, reliable sources said today.

The defensive military "curtains" have been deployed by Chad's Council of State, which was created on May 8, in a bid to stop Mr Habre's FAN from making any move on Ndjamena, the sources here said.

The first is at a distance of 70 km out of the capital, the second at 50 km (about 40 miles) and the third at 30 km (about 20 miles), according to the sources.

The OAU has meanwhile promised to assure the security and possible evacuation of diplomats, officials of international organisations and other foreigners in Ndjamena in the case of a battle for the capital. The OAU secretary-general's representative in Chad, Egzeber Dawit, met diplomats here on Saturday and informed them that any evacuation, by air or across the River Chari, would take place under the protection of the Zairian, Nigerian and Senegalese soldiers of the OAU peacekeeping force in Chad.

It was not possible to learn the total number of government troops. Although it was said that it must be "rather big", since for the last four days not a single fighting man of the various politico-military factions represented on the Council of State is to be found in the town. The troops are essentially drawn from the Popular Armed Forces (FAP) of President Goukouni Oueddei, the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) of the vice-president and head of the Council of State, Colonel Kamougue Abdel Kader, and the Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR) of Foreign Minister Acyl Ahmat.

Military experts in Ndjamena said the success of the defensive moves would depend on the determination and the cohesion of the government forces in the face of an adversary aware that he is close to reaching his goal. The leaders of the factions on the government side would also have to unite, whereas the creation of the Council of State, contrary to its purpose, has further divided them, notably Mr Goukouni, Col Kamougue and Mr Acyl.

Col Kamougue has even left for his southern home town of Moundou.

Mr Habre, according to military experts here, has about 1,500 men available to try to take the capital, out of an estimated total 3,000 FAN combatants. About 1,000 FAN troops are still in the east of the country, which they have occupied for the last six months, notably at Oum Hadjer, considered a strategic point. Another 500 are on the axis between Faya-Largueau in the north and Ati in the east.

Militarily, the initiative remains with the FAN. Ati, 400 km (250 miles) from Ndjamena, where most of the OAU forces are camped, should fall to Mr Habre's men within 48 hours at the outside, according to reliable sources in the capital.

The latest three towns to come under FAN control -- Moussoro on May 19, Mao on May 24 and Massakory on May 29 -- were taken without a fight. At Mao, the civilian population, led by women and children, asked the OAU forces present in the town not to intervene.

Military sources in Ndjamena also said that since last March, at the time of the battle for Oum Hadjer, which was first re-taken by the government forces and then lost again to the FAN, there has not been any real clash between Mr Habre's forces and those of the transitional government.

GABON

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT SIGNED

AB291100 Paris AFP in English 1057 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Libreville, May 29 (AFP) -- Egypt has agreed to send a total of ten doctors, teachers, agronomists and civil engineers to work in various provinces in Gabon. The agreement was signed here yesterday by Gabonese Economy and Finance Minister Jean Pierre Lemboumba-Lepandou and Egyptian Ambassador to Gabon Mustafa Hanafi.

GAMBIA

5 SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR 30 JULY COUP ATTEMPT

AB010835 Paris AFP in English 0819 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Banjul, 1 June (AFP) -- Five officers of Gambia's Armed Forces were sentenced to death here yesterday for their part in the insurrection and attempted coup d'etat in the little West African state last July.

This brought to 22 the number of death sentences passed since a special court began trying those accused in connection with the failed July 30 rebellion against the government of President Sir Dawda Jawara. The earlier sentences are under appeal.

Two other officers also accused of treason were acquitted yesterday.

The trial of the leader of the opposition National Convention Party, Sherif Dibba, in connection with the uprising, meanwhile continued with the hearing of the 42nd witness. Mr Dibba stood unsuccessfully against Sir Dawda in presidential elections early last month while in detention.

GHANA

RAWLINGS RETURNS, COMMENTS ON ECOWAS SUMMIT

AB301425 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 30 May 82

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, returned to Accra this morning from Cotonou, Benin, where he attended the fifth ECOWAS summit. The 2-day conference was attended by heads of state from 12 countries.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings told newsmen on arrival that member countries of ECOWAS have realized that most of them are in economic crisis and the duration of the crisis can only be reduced through integrated efforts. This is because the individualistic way of going about their economic affairs has kept them in bondage. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said the summit drew attention to the need to get all member countries to be self-sufficient in agricultural production within the next 5 years. He said the current ECOWAS chairman, President Kerekou of Benin, appropriately harped on the need for member states to perform better than before to achieve the goals set by ECOWAS.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings (?was encouraged by) the sense of political urgency at the meeting which has brought the necessity of stepping up greater involvement in programs for, as he put it, things have stayed on paper for too long. Ghana, he declared, assured the other countries she would play her role effective. He disclosed that his meetings with other heads of state were warm and there was a great deal of good will toward Ghana. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings (?said) there is no point for Ghanaians to feel sorry for themselves and feel all that isolated.

LIBYAN PEOPLE'S BUREAU MEMBER ADDRESSES PDC

AB310828 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] A member of the Libyan People's Bureau in Accra, (Mr Ahmed Touhmi), has observed that popular revolutions such as the 31 December revolution do not produce governments, but people's power. They produce the right of the people to decide and control their destiny.

People's or workers' defense committees throughout the country must accordingly intensify their political education of the people toward achieving the goals of the revolution.

Speaking during the inauguration of a local people's defense council [PDC] near Legon, (Mr Touhmi) said the Libyan people were subjected to suppression before the country's revolution in 1969. He said with that bitter experience, Libyans are prepared to help oppressed people anywhere to win back their freedom. (Mr Touhmi) asked PDC's to take the initiative to organize and mobilize all available human and material resources to develop their localities. This, he emphasized, will go a long way to improve the living standards of the people instead of depending on the government to provide them with their needs.

FORMER PNP FUNCTIONARIES RELEASED FROM CUSTODY

AB300855 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Ten functionaries of the disbanded PNP [People's National Party] have been released from protective custody at Tamale. The order was given by the northern regional secretary, Mr Ndebugre, on the recommendation of the regional investigations committee. This brings to 36 the number of detainees released from custody from Tamale.

Addressing the freed persons, who included one woman, Mr Ndebugre said their release follows the inability of the committee to establish any case against them. He said their release is only temporary. This is because they will be placed under surveillance and the government will not hesitate to detain them again if their activities are found to be contrary to the aims of the revolution. He announced that one of those released last night has been rearrested for engaging in counterrevolutionary activities and also for collecting monies from people on the pretext of acquiring bicycles for them.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ABOLISHES EXIT PERMITS

AB301420 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Exit permits have been abolished with immediate effect. This is contained in a statement issued by the Ministry of the Interior. The ministry asked immigration officers, particularly those at the Kotoka International Airport and the country's borders, to take note of the abolition and comply with it.

The exit permit was introduced on 11 January this year. At that time there were thousands of Ghanaians who had come home on holidays and were caught by the exercise. However, issuing of the permits was speeded up to minimize inconvenience to travelers.

ANGOLA

COOPERATION DOCUMENTS SIGNED WITH USSR

AB272146 Luanda ANGOP in French 1932 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Launda, 27 May (ANGOP) -- The People's Republic of Angola and the Soviet Union in Luanda on Thursday signed a protocol agreement on naval repairs and a "memorandum" on the program for technical and economic cooperation to be carried out 1982-85.

These documents were signed for the Angolan side by Emilio Jose Guerra de Carvalho, Angolan fisheries minister, and for the Soviet side by Yuri Pitrov, USSR minister of fish industry.

MOZAMBIQUE

SOVIET GENERAL YEPISHEV ARRIVES 28 MAY

EA281320 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0900 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Aleksey Yepishev, head of the General Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, arrived in Maputo a short time ago for a friendly visit to Mozambique. The guest was welcomed at the airport by Armando Guebuza, national political commissar of the Mozambique Armed Forces.

Talks Open 28 May

EA282122 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Talks opened in Maputo this afternoon between military delegations from Mozambique and the USSR led by Lt Gen Armando Guebuza, national political commissar of the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM; and Gen Aleksey Alekseyvich Yepishev, chief of the Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy.

At the opening session, Armando Guebuza said the talks will make possible the strengthening of relations, particularly fraternal solidarity, between the two countries' armies that are engaged in the struggle against imperialism. On relations between the two armies, Lt Gen Armando Guebuza said they date from the time of the armed struggle for national liberation. Relations currently center on training a powerful regular army capable of facing any arising situation.

The head of the Soviet military delegation said his country will always be on Mozambique's side in building socialism. He added that a common program of action for the two armies based on an exchange of experiences has been drafted. Lt Gen Armando Guebuza is giving a reception this evening.

Yepishev Promises Support

NC291746 Paris AFP in English 1712 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Maputo, 29 May (AFP) -- A visiting high-level Soviet military man, General Aleksey Yepishev, head of the Army and Navy Political Department, has promised continued Soviet support for the Government of Mozambique.

General Yepishev, who arrived here yesterday at the head of a major politico-military delegation, told his Mozambican counterpart, Lieutenant-General Armando Guebuza, that the Soviet Union "will give you all our support."

Earlier in the week, Mozambican Vice-Defense Minister Sebastiao Mobote, who is also chief of the general staff, met the Soviet defence minister, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, in Moscow. The number two man in the Mozambican Frelimo Party, Marcelino Dos Santos, was also in Moscow last week.

The talks come at a time when the Mozambican Army is believed to be stepping up counter-insurgency efforts against armed anti-government guerrillas operating in more than half the country. The Soviet Union is one of Mozambique's major military suppliers, and the talks are covered by a 20-year friendship treaty between the two countries signed in 1977.

General Visits Nampula

EA301502 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Continuing his official and friendly visit to Mozambique, Gen Aleksey Yepishev, chief of the main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, left Maputo for Nampula Province this morning. In Nampula, the Soviet officer will tour military units of the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM.

The chief of the main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Nayy laid a wreath at the Mozambique heroes monument shortly before leaving for Nampula Province. Yesterday, Gen Aleksey Yepishnev inspected two military detachments in Maputo.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO GUERRILLAS KILL RSA 'SECRET AGENT', 2 OTHERS

1 June Ambush

AB010720 Paris AFP in English 0713 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Luanda, 1 June (AFP) — SWAPO Guerrillas have killed a South African secret agent in am ambush in Namibia, the Angolan news agency ANGOP and the Portuguese agency ANOP reported here Monday.

A SWAPO communique said the alleged agent, Daniel Potgieter, was using the cover of a businessman when his car was destroyed in the ambush between Grootfontein and Rundu, south of Windhoek. It did not give the date of the ambush, in which it claimed an unspecified number of South African armoured cars were also destroyed.

31 May Incident

LD311348 Johannesburg International Service in English 1300 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Windhoek -- SWAPO terrorists have shot and killed two men in northern South-West Africa/Namibia. The victims were the party organizer of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr (Stephanus Raphael) and the member of the special constabulary, Mr (Rudolf Moyssizi).